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China At Crossroads President Approves Ho Cabinet

Nanking, March 21.
Members of the Government's two highest policy-making bodies this afternoon approved General Ho Ying-chin's list of Ministers for his new peace Cabinet, including Dr. Fo Ping-chang's appointment as Foreign Minister.

Among the Cabinet Ministers are six generals, besides General Ho Ying-chin—three with portfolios and three without—which has caused some observers to believe that the Premier has not completely broken the possibility of a further active phase of the civil war.

General Ho is also believed to have been prompted by the desire to strengthen his military position in negotiating with the Communists.

Members of the two Kuomintang bodies—Central Executive Committee and Central Political Council—were summoned by the President to a tea party to discuss approval of General Ho's list of Ministers.

Continuity over Dr. Fu's appointment had earlier delayed completion of the Cabinet list, because Conservative Kuomintang ministers feared Nationalist China under Mr. Fu's foreign policy may voluntarily try to slip behind the Iron Curtain.

General Ho's Cabinet comprises eight Ministers with portfolios, two Commissioners and seven Ministers without portfolios. The only old Minister retained in the new Cabinet is the National Defence Minister, General Hsu Yung-chang.

The only unexpected nomination today was replacement of the Finance Minister, Mr. Hsu Kan, by Dr. S. Y. Liu, Governor of the Central Bank.

The suggested re-appointment of Mr. Hsu Kan recently led to criticism because it is contended his economic reforms had failed to halt inflation.

The complete Cabinet list is as follows:
Premier: General Ho Ying-chin.
Deputy Premier: Mr. Chia Ching-tai.
Secretary-General of the Executive Yuan: Mr. Hwang-hsiao-ku.
Minister of Economic Affairs: Mr. Sun Yueh-chi.
Minister of Interior: General Li Han-hun.
Minister of Finance: Dr. S. Y. Liu.
Minister of Education: Dr. Han Lu-wu.
Foreign Minister: Communist Generalissimo Mao Tse-tung.
Minister of Justice: Mr. Chang Shih-pan.
Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs Commissioner: Mr. Pai Yin-tee.
Overseas Chinese Affairs Commissioner: Mr. Tai Kwei-sen.
Minister of National Defence: General Hsu Yung-chang.
Ministers with Portfolios: General Chang Chun, General Chung Chi-chung, Dr. Chu Chia-hua, General Ho Yao-tse, Mr. Teh-hui, and one nomination each from the Young China and Democratic Socialist parties.

President Li Tsing-jen has issued a decree appointing these Ministers.—Reuter.

KING'S STEADY RECOVERY

London, March 21.
The recovery of King George VI from his recent operation has been uneventful and the flow of blood to the right foot has been substantially improved, it was officially announced today.—Reuter.

Funds For Improvement At Whampoa

Canton, March 21.
The Executive Yuan has earmarked US\$7,500,000 for the development of both the Whampoa harbour and the Whampoa area this year.

Mr. Lin Yi-wan, Chairman of the Whampoa Harbour Construction Commission, is quoted by the local press as saying that this sum will be used for the following purposes:

(1) Extension of wharves to enable seven 10,000-ton steamers to be simultaneously moored alongside them; (2) further dredging of the Pearl River to enable 10,000-ton vessels to reach Whampoa harbour; (3) to establish water and electricity works; and (4) the building of more godowns.—Reuter.

More New Economic Measures

Shanghai, March 21.
New economic control measures, featuring by large-scale dumping and slashing of military expenditure, are being drafted to cope with the deteriorating situation, according to press reports today.

They were said to have been discussed and decided upon by Acting President Li Tsing-jen during his week-end visit to Shanghai.

It was also reported that the tight cash situation will probably be eased somewhat today by the release of more new GY500 and GY1,000 notes.

Meanwhile, the price of rice has soared to a new record of GY63,000 per picul of 170 pounds weight, compared with GY50,000 during the week-end.—Reuter.

Govt Troops N. Of Yangtse To Withdraw

Nanking, March 21.
Nationalist forces on the North bank of the Yangtse opposite Chinkiang, 45 miles East of Nanking, were preparing to withdraw from their bridgeheads, according to messages from Chinkiang.

Communist forces now facing the Nationalists on these bridgeheads were estimated at 200,000, press messages said.

Fighting around besieged Yichang, 30 miles East of Nanking on the North bank, was reported continuing.

The small Nationalist garrison in the walled city was said to be running short of supplies.

Further East at Tientsin, fighting was reported, but there was still no indication that the Communists had begun an attack on the bridgeheads preparatory to attempting to cross the Yangtse.

The Nationalist forces in the Hankow area are evacuating supply depots to the South bank as the threat to the area increases with the Communist commander, General Liu Po-cheng's columns advancing down the Peiping-Hankow Railway, according to local press reports today.

Military organisations and go-downs in Wuchang were said to have been ordered to evacuate to Changsha and Hengyang, in Hunan Province, on the Canton-Hankow Railway, by April 10.

Unconfirmed reports today said the movement of Communist troops down the Tientsin-Pukow railway towards the Yangtse river line.

Additional troops from General Lin Piao's Manchurian command are said to have arrived at Heichow, 108 miles North West of Nanking. Other troops of the 35th Communist army were reported at Chubien, 30 miles North of Nanking. Neutral military quarters said they were now awaiting confirmation of these reports.

The Military News Agency said although there was little activity in North Kiangsu, the "Communist forces have apparently completed their preparations for crossing of the river and now only await the signal to attack."—Reuter and Associated Press.

LONG NIGHTS BREED MANY DREAMS—YEN

Shanghai, March 21.
Confidence that the forthcoming peace negotiations between the Nationalists and Communists would be successful was expressed in Shanghai by Dr. W. W. Yen, leader of the recent non-partisan peace delegation to Peiping, in an interview here today.

He said that if one party had something to sell and another desired to buy, they would come to some agreement.

He warned, however, that the opening of talks should not be delayed too long, quoting the well-known Chinese proverb: "When nights are long dreams are many." To emphasise the necessity for an early start of the talks before either side has too many bad dreams about the other.

Sun Faces Censure On Funds

Nanking, March 21.
The Control Yuan today lodged a formal indictment against Former Premier Sun Fo, charging misappropriation of GY\$110,000,000 in government funds.

The indictment was forwarded for action to both the President's Office and the Supreme Court.

The President's Office normally would take administrative and corrective action while the Supreme Court may prosecute Sun Fo on criminal grounds.

The indictment alleges that Sun Fo ordered funds deposited in a Shanghai bank in an account under his son's name where they were drawn upon for illegal purposes.

The government funds were allegedly misappropriated last January when their own market valuation was about US\$100,000.

According to the regulations, impeachment and censure resolutions against Dr. Sun Fo should be enforced within three months after it left the Control Yuan secretariat. If not the Control Yuan has the power to demand an official explanation from the executive organs.

The penalty under an impeachment resolution is demotion in official rank, but misappropriation of public funds, charged under the censure resolution, is punishable by imprisonment.

Before final judgement is passed on the resolution, Dr. Sun Fo is barred from being appointed to another official position or being promoted.—Associated Press, and United Press.

No Iceland Bases For U.S.

New York, March 20.
The Icelandic Foreign Minister, Mr. Bjarni Benediktsson, said today that the United States did not seek bases in Iceland, that Iceland would not make bases available to any power, and that the United States had a good understanding of Iceland's specific problems.

Benediktsson, who left by air for home with his delegation, after discussions in Washington on the North Atlantic Pact, said that he "received very frank and plain answers from Mr. Dean Acheson, United States Secretary of State and other officials."

He would report on the discussions to his government and parliament, and he expected parliament to decide within a few days whether Iceland would join the pact.—Reuter.

CHINESE IN MALAYA

Nanking, March 21.
The Overseas Chinese Association at Amoy has asked the Overseas Chinese Affairs Commission to file a strong protest with the Government of the Malayan Federation against the "aggravating anti-Chinese attitude" according to the Central News Agency.

The Association was reported to have received accounts from Chinese repatriated from Malaya, saying that the Malayan authorities had arrested 10,000 Chinese and that whole villages were liable to arrests, irrespective of age and sex.—Reuter.

Shrove Tuesday In Zurich



These grotesque characters are taking part in the "March of the Dandies" during a two-day Shrove Tuesday festival in Zurich, Switzerland. Shrove Tuesday is the last day on which they may indulge their fancies for trivialities.—Associated Press photo.

Govt Leads In French Elections

Paris, March 21.
The parties making up France's Coalition Government piled up a lead today as ballots were counted in yesterday's cantonal or county elections.

It took the combined efforts of the parties in Premier Henri Queuille's Cabinet, however, to overcome the vote for General Charles de Gaulle's followers, who called... the highest single party total. The Communists ran second.

With more than 4,000,000 of the estimated 6,000,000 votes tallied, 712 officials had been definitely elected. There were 1,509 offices at stake in the election.

The Government had 316 of the 712. Of these, 155 were won by the Radical Socialists, 108 by the Socialists, 35 by the Popular Republicans and 18 by the small rightist group in the Cabinet.

The Government parties drew about 1,379,000 votes, more than 33 per cent of the total.

De Gaulle's right-wing French People's Party (RPF) had 171 offices and more than 28 per cent of the popular vote. The Communists, although they had polled more than 900,000 votes or some 22 per cent of the total counted, won only 16 seats.

The election does not affect the French National Government. It was significant chiefly as a sampling of popular opinion.

The Communists were the only party to name a candidate for each of the 1,508 offices contested. They campaigned on a straight anti-American platform. Assailing the North Atlantic treaty as "an instrument of war against Russia," they told the voters, "a vote for us is a vote for peace."

The Moderate Union of the Socialist, Popular Republican Movement (MRP), the Radical Socialists (Queuille's own party) and a small rightist party.

French Voters were apathetic with only about 60 to 65 per cent showing up at the polls—a low average for France. In general, the elections showed:

1. The balance of power among France's three main political forces remains unchanged.

2. The De Gaulle movement has gained no fresh strength in recent months. In popular vote so far, it has polled less than 30 per cent compared to 38 per cent in October, 1947 municipal elections.

3. The Communist Party remains a formidable force and still remains France's second largest political group next to the top powerful Socialist Party.—Associated Press.

ON OTHER PAGES

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Page 10 Referendum Asked For French People.

Truman Wants Free Hand To Arm Western Europe

Washington, March 21.
President Truman is expected to ask Congress for a free hand in allocating arms to Western Europe under the proposed US\$1,000,000,000 military aid programme.

The programme is due to go to the Capitol about the same time as the North Atlantic security treaty or immediately thereafter. Truman will send up the treaty for Senate approval immediately after it is signed here by an expected 12 nations on April 4.

According to present State Department planning, the President should try to get from Congress as much of a blank check authority as he can under whatever expenditure limit Congress fixes.

Present estimates are that more than \$1,000,000,000 will be required in the first 12 months to help rearm Europe.

Chairman Carl Vinson, Georgia Democrat of the House Armed Services Committee predicted the arms requests "will be approved in both Houses without a particle of trouble."

The arms aid programme is designed by the Administration to carry out the "mutual aid" members, along with 12 Democrats, are so undecided about its far-reaching effects that they would not commit themselves publicly for or against the proposed agreement, an Associated Press canvass showed.

One hundred and ninety-three Senators were approached by reporters and 55 of them said they are inclined to support the principle of the pact which would bind Western European nations together with this country in common defence.

Many of this group, including 30 Democrats and 10 Republicans, reserved final judgment on how they will vote until the Senate actually begins work on the treaty—possibly in May or June.

One Republican, Senator George Malone of Nevada, came out publicly against the proposed treaty.

Since two-thirds of those voting must approve to make this country's entry into the pact effective, the opposition of all 30 Senators possibly could kill the agreement.—Associated Press.

What A Future For Shanghai's Pickpockets!

Shanghai, March 21.
This city's pickpockets, among the world's most accomplished, have a dismal future to look forward to—if they get caught.

The police announced that any one caught red-handed would have their fingers chopped off.—United Press.

programme of the treaty. It would thereby help the countries of Western Europe fulfil the terms in the "common strategic plan" which is to be worked out by the allied powers.

The first only official reference to this broad scheme of defence for the Western world under the projected treaty came on Saturday night. It appeared in a State Department pamphlet explaining the details of the treaty.

The two world wars, the department said, "proved that a major conflict in Europe would inevitably involve the United States." The Atlantic treaty, it added, is "designed to give assurance" that if a third world war broke out the West will have "a co-ordinated defence in which the actual military strength and the military potential of all the members will be integrated into a common strategic plan."

The State Department emphasized in its official paper that whether this country went to war if a major attack occurred in Europe would be a question for Congress to decide. But the department left little doubt that under the treaty this nation would have a strong obligation to go to war.

Republicans—and a handful of Democrats—may hold the balance of power when the Senate decides whether the United States should enter the proposed North Atlantic security alliance.

At the moment, the edge is heavily in favour of entering the alliance.

But at least 35 Republican

Cassidy Sees Bright Future For Hong Kong

Members of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce were advised yesterday to obtain margins in respect of forward contracts and to keep credit facilities to a minimum.

The advice came from Mr. P. S. Cassidy, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, who presided at the annual general meeting of the Colony's leading organisation of businessmen.

Mr. Cassidy asked members of the Chamber to bear in mind what will happen if a slump sets in. He said margin profits have come down very low and that in a good many lines, demand has fallen off.

Outstanding feature of last year's trade, said Mr. Cassidy, was the further shrinkage of the proportion of trade with China in proportion to other parts of the world.

Making allowances for unrecorded movements of merchandise, it is obvious that the Colony's export trade has widened considerably, said the Chairman.

that the high seas will be safe for our own shipping." Other highlights of Mr. Cassidy's speech were:

1. Concern over the continued existence of the Department of Supplies, and Trade and Industry which "we hoped would have been wound up long ago."

2. Local industry made considerable progress. The primitive type of factory set up in dwelling houses is disappearing.

3. The shipbuilding industry has been handicapped by the shortage of steel and other supply difficulties.

4. The recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry into the disastrous Wing On Godown fire should be put into effect.

5. New Airfield
Government should let the public know what it proposes to do in regard to a new airfield and whether there is likely to be any difficulty about arranging the necessary finance. The Colony cannot afford to find itself bypassed because of the lack of adequate ground facilities for modern aircraft.

6. The Chamber's Arbitration Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. G. W. Sewell has been revived.

Mr. Cassidy also placed on record that the Colony's economy was being taken by men on the spot—internes and prisoners-of-war with the wholehearted support of the Chinese and local staff. The fact should not be overlooked, he said, that the first impetus toward recovery came from those who were here.

At the same time he acknowledged the assistance rendered by Admiral Harcourt's military Government and the Civil Affairs branch under the "brilliant leadership of Mr. D. M. MacDougall whose impending departure we deplore."

Mr. Cassidy's speech was seconded by Mr. J. H. Warming, Managing Director of the Royal Inter-Oceanic Lines.

He said he hopes that Government may see its way to resume the pre-war practice of referring to the Chamber of Commerce as matters of commercial nature, not to the advisory organisation known as the Board of Trade.

Mr. Warming said that close co-operation between Government and private enterprise is essential to prevent discontent and possibly even trouble of a more serious nature.

He added: "When a reasonable and satisfactory standard of wage scales and allowances have been set up in mutual consultation, it is hoped that all concerned will adhere as closely as possible to those standards in order to prevent undue competition among employers and consequent disquiet among workers."

(A full report of the speeches on Page 2)



Thirst Satisfaction With Ice-Cold Coke

Tenancy Dispute Before Tribunal

The proposed erection of an office building at the present site of 18 and 18A Ice House Street, which would include 35 rooms, at an estimated cost of HK\$200,000, was brought before Mr. C. Loseby at the Tenancy Tribunal yesterday.

The Local Printing Press, owners of the premises, was applying for an exemption from the Landlord and Tenants Ordinance and for the eviction of Mr. L. E. Bosto, proprietor of the Lebast Construction Company, one of the tenants of the premises, in order to construct the new building.

Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. J. Armstrong of Deacons, is representing the applicants. The opponent is represented by Mr. B. A. Bernacchi instructed by Mr. D'Almeida Remedios.

The grounds of the application are that the applicants are the owners of 18 and 18A Ice House Street. It is one of the terms of the tenancy, according to the applicants, that it should be purely temporary on an ad hoc basis and the opponent agreed to vacate the premises whenever it might be required.

Notice To quit

The application is also based on the ground that the applicants purchased the property in September 1937, and that on October 27, the applicants gave the opponents notice to quit. The opponent did not do so.

The applicants had made arrangements for the erection of a new office building on the site. Arrangements were also made for the demolition of the existing building into two parts to enable the tenants to be accommodated during the reconstruction. All the tenants with the exception of the opponent consented to the arrangement.

The existing building on the site was partly damaged during the Japanese occupation, and a small portion was temporarily reconstructed by the opponent during his tenancy. The proposed building consists of an old-fashioned building, unbecomingly and expensive to run.

The occupant occupies a small room on the ground floor of 18 Ice House Street which he uses partly as an office and partly as a domestic house. The opponent is the tenant of a fully furnished three-roomed flat at 16 Shan Kwong Road, Happy Valley, applicant's claim.

The refusal of the opponent to vacate the one room occupied by him is preventing the construction of the new building and the development of the site.

Excessive Rent Claim

The grounds of opposition is that the applicant is vindictive against opponent by reason of his refusal to pay excessive rent. The opponent had always been ready and willing to agree to any reasonable terms offered him by the applicant.

Further grounds are that the applicants would not have decided to rebuild the site had the opponent paid the excessive rent of \$5,000 a month asked by the applicant.

Opponent admitted that he had a small residence in Happy Valley but that was not suitable for office purposes.

The opponent further claim that more than \$50,000 was spent by him on the rehabilitation of the premises.

The site in question was then visited by Mr. C. Loseby, architect, of Leigh and Orange, came forward to give evidence as to the plans of the construction of the proposed new building.

Hearing will continue on April 14 at 10 a.m.

CASE DROPPED

Private Henderson, aged 24, of the First Inniskillings, was discharged from Kowloon Magistrate's Court yesterday when the prosecution withdrew their case against him.

He was formerly charged with being drunk in a public place.

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Aid To China

Sir,—It was expected that when Mr. H.G.W. Woodhead returned to Hong Kong after his tour abroad, he would entertain your readers with interesting articles about conditions in the countries which he is reported to have visited.

Instead of taking a most logical course, he has again resorted to ferocious anti-Chinese propaganda.

Mr. Woodhead states in his latest article, "China Cannot be Helped," that the action of 50 American Senators in supporting what he describes as "Senator McCarran's hare-brained proposal" can only be regarded as evidence of the appalling ignorance of U.S. legislators regarding conditions in China.

I must say that I most emphatically disagree with Mr. Woodhead on this point. The Senators in question would seem to be men of greater vision than Mr. Woodhead—men who are thinking of the future, not the present or of the ancient past.

Although China is in a comparatively weak state today, the said Senators have apparently not overlooked the importance of the China market and the fact that China is still one of the richest countries in the world.

If Mr. Woodhead has studied European history, he will readily appreciate that England was not always the great and strong country that she is today. England was at one time torn asunder by civil strife.

Corruption was rampant, highwaymen roamed the countryside, the people were persecuted, wars wasted stores of all kinds, hindered farming and manufacturing, interfered with trade and made life and property unsafe. As with England, so with other great countries of today.

There is such a thing as the law of averages. No country can remain great and strong or weak forever. There is an end to all things. The Empire which flourished before England became a great power are now no more.

Inevitably the wheel of fate keeps on turning and some day in the future, China will also become great. We may not live to see the day, but nevertheless it will come.

The 50 American Senators whom Mr. Woodhead condemns can visualize the future and therefore wish to retain China's goodwill by helping her today when she is most in need. They realize, as Mr. Woodhead does not, that when China settles into a peaceful era, any aid that America can give China now will be returned a thousandfold.

Mr. Woodhead is afraid that any material aid given to China by America will fall into the hands of the Communists and thus result in the abandonment of an important bargaining factor when the moment arrives to secure an explicit ruling from them as to their future attitude towards foreign trade and industry.

This is a somewhat strange remark for Mr. Woodhead to make, and serves to prove something which he has always refused to admit, the importance with which trade with China is regarded by foreigners.

Since Mr. Woodhead is so anxious that the Americans refrain from aiding China, might I suggest to him that he can also try to persuade the Americans to quit China and not have any trade relations with the Chinese. The latter, who are not accustomed to such a high standard of living as Europeans, can always go back to the land and live in mud flats. It would be interesting, however, to see what would happen to the Americans.

What would they do with all the foodstuffs, chemicals, motor cars, machinery, radios and thousands of other items which they now export in unlimited quantities to China? Perhaps Mr. Woodhead, in his wisdom, will be able to suggest another outlet for these American goods which now flood the China market and which represent so much more wealth and employment for America and Americans.

Mr. Woodhead seeks to accuse all Chinese of ingratitude just because certain students of a Shanghai University have acted in a manner contrary to his conception of gratitude.

If we are to take his line of reasoning as the basis for arriving at a conclusion, then the Chinese would be perfectly justified in accusing all Englishmen of being ingrate and ungrateful men just because a few of them have been guilty of dishonesty in their dealings with Chinese merchants.

As to the "ferocious anti-American propaganda" to which Mr. Woodhead makes reference, may I remind him that he was at one

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor takes no responsibility for views expressed in letters by correspondents, and by no means necessarily agrees with them.

Time violently anti-American himself. Does he recollect an accusation against the Americans followed in the wake of British armies and set themselves up in business in places won at the sacrifice of British blood?

Before concluding this letter, I would like to take this opportunity of making reference to a recent comment by Mr. Woodhead on the "Min Chu-I" (Three Principles of Dr. Sun Yat-sen).

Mr. Woodhead said that Dr. Sun's antics with the population question would make the angels weep.

It might interest Mr. Woodhead to know that in a recent news release from Tokyo, Major General W.F. Marquart, Chief of General MacArthur's Economic and Scientific Section, said that in a year, the population of Japan had increased by 2,000,000.

Major Marquart further said that the population of Japan was now 80,697,491 and that by 1968 it would be 100,000,000.

Since Mr. Woodhead professes to know so much about the "Min Chu-I," he will no doubt agree that Major General Marquart's figures as to the population of Japan within a given number of years exceed by approximately 2,000,000 the figures given by Dr. Sun. Why, Mr. Woodhead, is guilty of "antics" which would make the angels weep?

SIMPLE SIMON.

Editor's Note: If the correspondent who signed his name and address not for publication, his letter will be printed. Anonymity will always be preserved if requested, but the writer's name must also be given.

Council Ordinance

Sir,—The period of time between the publication of the draft of the Municipal Council Ordinance and its discussion in the Legislature will give the Government and the Legislature time to think on important lines. The discussion will provide an opportunity for statesmanship in the matter of alternative schemes.

The discussion will raise inevitably the question of the requirements of Hong Kong in the matter of government.

The Government it is true are tentatively planning to follow by way of solution a glorified Urban District Council with no real or vital powers of any kind.

For all I know it will be timidly backed by the English Colonial Office. I neither know nor care who uses it. I say only that it is valueless and useless.

Who incidentally supplied the information on which the Colonial Office acted?

The people of Hong Kong—an important place—want something that is real and quite different. They want a Government and Legislature, without plain and palpable blamish, that is strong and (being an English Colony) representative of the spirit of England. They want an Executive and Legislature determined only to do its duty by the people, determined to be fair and just, determined always to discover the needs of the people and supply them where they will no doubt.

They want an Executive and Legislature that is free and without bias, not coloured in one direction or another, concerned only with the public interest, unbalanced in the matter of private interests.

What is what they want and all that they want. They have not, however, got it. They can hope in my view for no change for the better until they do get it.

I could name off hand not one but many real problems that can be solved in no other way. A balanced Legislature would solve them. An ill balanced Legislature does not even look in the right direction.

What went wrong? It is not difficult to explain. The Government created, and created, incidentally when times were abnormal, its own Executive and Legislature. They appear to have been under the impression that the only interests in Hong Kong that mattered and required representation were those of big business, the big business (and financial houses and those dependent upon them).

Their motive need not be impugned.

It does not even matter.

Old China Hand

Sir,—China Cannot be Helped," says Mr. H.G.W. Woodhead, C.I.E. A disappointed interventionist in Chinese affairs, Mr. Woodhead sees now that his copyrights have been infringed upon by Moscow so much that whatever Old China Hands advocated since 1942 benefit only Uncle Josef Stalin.

The China that Q.M. Green, J.O.P. Bland, H.G. Woodhead and Company saw—the China of Yuan Shih-kai, Wu Pei-fu, and Chiang Kai-shek who would sell out their nation's birthrights for the Reorganisation Loan and UNRRA or 39 Divisions' Armaments—is gone and cannot be helped. It was the China, a broken China, of the good old China Hands like Mr. Woodhead who lived on talking on Chinese problems whose language and literature they did not quite understand.

New China appears beyond the apprehension and appreciation of the Old China Hands. New China talks the language of Karl Marx, coined in the British Museum, to the disgust of Mr. Woodhead, a defender of British Imperialism whose fundamental concepts he does not appear to have studied very much.

Let us mourn for the funeral service of Old China Hands whose only survivor, Mr. Woodhead, has to give up their thesis because it has been stolen and practised by the Kremlin.

1942.

This ruling also applies to the hieroglyphic—signatured writer with no noted address who commented on Britain's food supplies. His letter will be used, under a pseudonym if necessary, provided the required details are supplied.

ILLEGAL PORK

Wong Sang pleaded guilty when he was charged at Kowloon yesterday with possessing 20 cabbages of pork not bearing government mark.

He was fined \$250 or eight weeks' imprisonment.

Robber Sentenced To Five Years

Five years' hard labour and eight strokes of the cane was the sentence meted out to Lau Kau-kei by Mr. Justice Williams, Puisne Judge, at the Criminal Sessions yesterday.

Lau was found guilty by a jury comprising two men and five women of robbery by two or more.

Crown Counsel, Mr. A. Hooton, conducted the prosecution assisted by Detective Inspector C. Askew. Lau was not legally represented.

Lau, it was alleged, together with others on or about October 26 last year robbed Lau Shui-yin of 59 tins of peanut oil.

According to Crown Counsel, the complainant owned a sampan and earned his living by carrying goods from Chinese territory in his boat to Hong Kong.

On October 24 last year, he was engaged by a firm at San Mei in Chinese territory to carry to Hong Kong 59 tins of peanut oil. Complainant left the place with his cargo about midday on October 25.

When he was approaching Tai Mui, Mr. Hooton continued, off the coast of Hong Kong about 7 p.m. on October 25, he observed a boat approaching. Three men were on board. Two had handkerchiefs over their faces, and the third wore sun glasses. The two who wore handkerchiefs were armed, one with a pistol and the other with a chopper. These two men boarded the sampan of the complainant, while the other remained behind.


Continuing, Crown Counsel told the court that complainant and his crew were then ordered below



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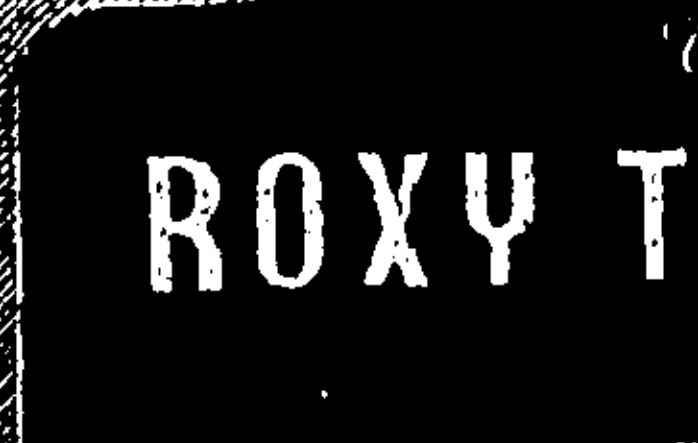


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Rome, March 20. At least 12 persons were injured in an hour-long gun and tear gas battle between Communists and police at Cernigola.

The police arrested a number of Communists on charges of organising a demonstration against the police before Communist headquarters at Cernigola, an official said.—United Press.

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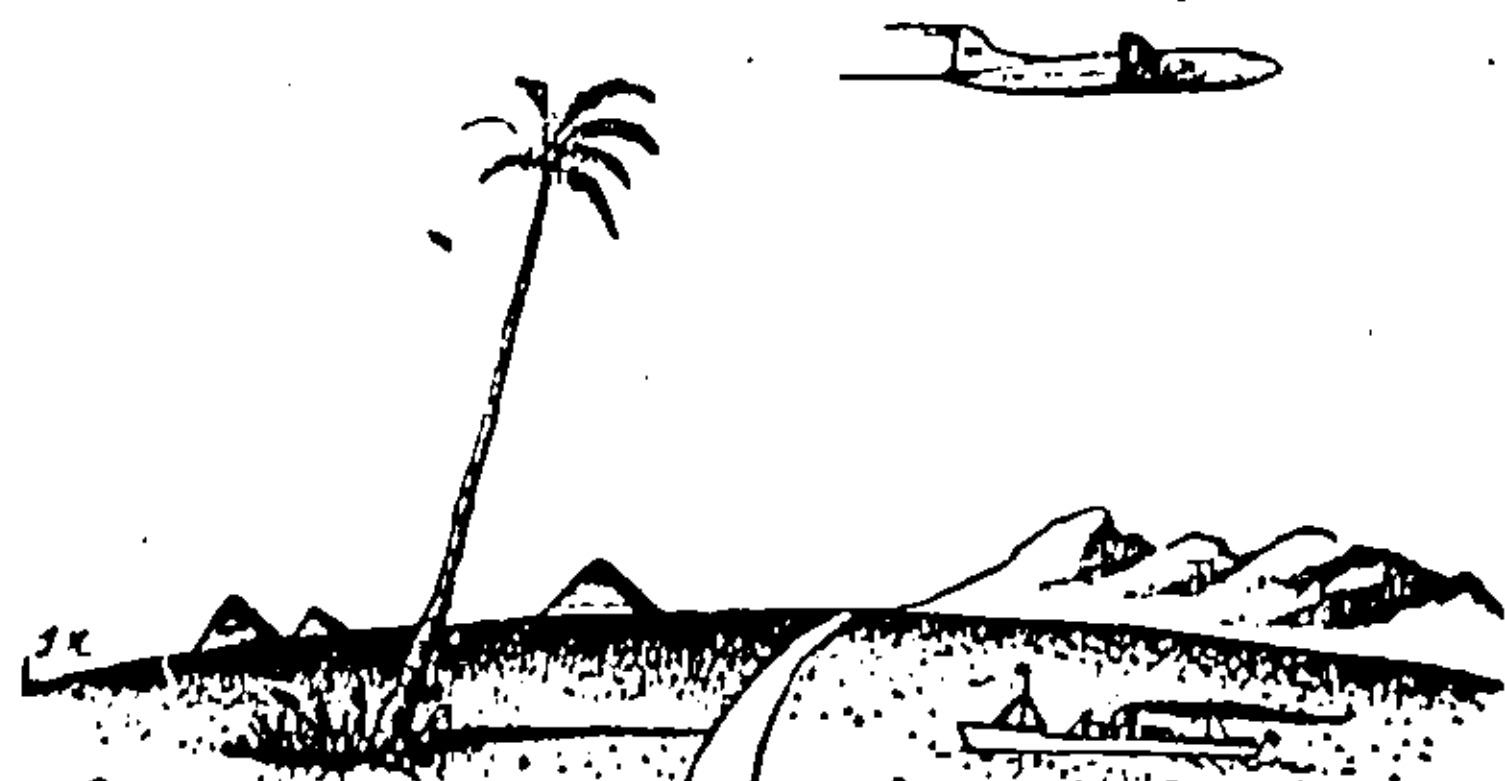
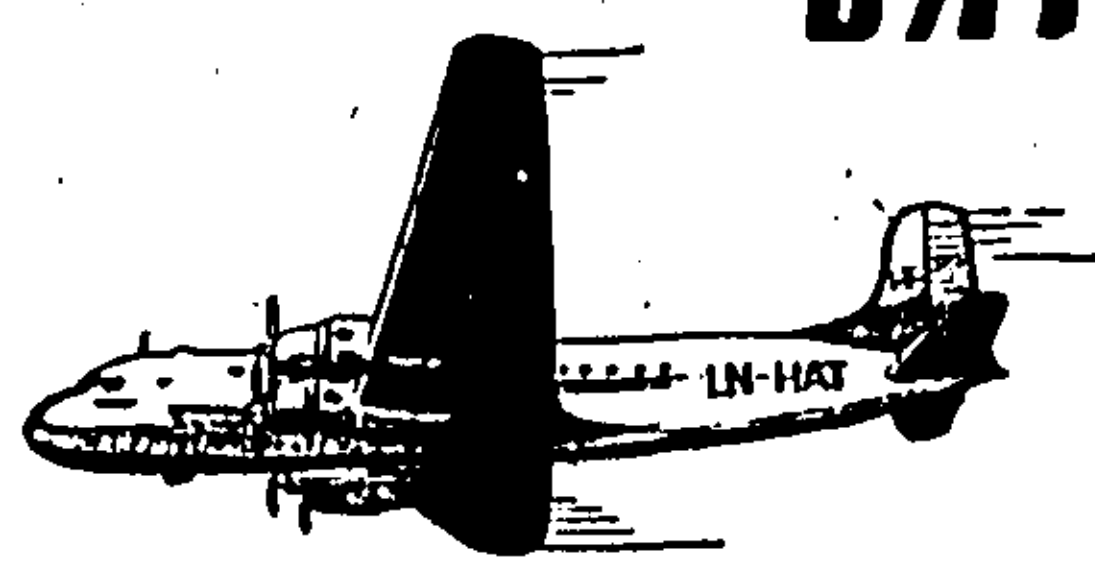
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COMMENT ON HONG KONG

There is no doubt that the Colony's business community, Chinese and European alike, will read with close attention the comprehensive survey of our economic past, present and future given yesterday by expert spokesmen of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce.

The Hon. P. S. Cassidy, chairman, was as cautiously optimistic as the Financial Secretary on budget day, but he also portrayed a future which is calmly encouraging to those who have made Hong Kong a permanent home. Making the point that the Home Government has promised there will be no change in the status of Hong Kong, he admits we may have internal disorders, but believes that the good sense of our citizens "will effectively scotch any underground efforts on the part of agitators." In this connection he adds his own voice to the appeal for volunteers for the defence force and essential services—while there is still time for enlistment to proceed in an orderly manner.

One of his comments cannot but be regarded with enthusiasm: "Provided law and order can be maintained here, as it has been so effectively since the liberation, then we need have no fear that our trade will collapse. The Chinese farmer will go on working and his produce will find its way down to the coast, the Chinese trader will not be put off getting goods into the country and, finally, we can feel confident that the high seas will be safe for our ocean shipping." Mr. Cassidy is also of the school which believes "it is a mistake to assume that the basic character of the Chinese merchant will be changed by any political creed." By nature he is an individualist, and it is our hope and belief that his inclination to trade will not allow his country to be fenced in and subject to domination to any foreign influence." There speaks another experienced foreign expert on China, and we would hesitate to contradict him, except in so far as that honest, balanced minds do not yet seem to appreciate in its entirety the ruthless, unwavering drive towards world domination that emanates from Moscow. The Chinese Communists may indeed diverge from the Kremlin—but in that case the Russian fanatics are not going to allow them to diverge for very long. It is unwise to be too optimistic in this respect, except in that even the Reds must trade with the outside world.

Concerning a possibly temporary feature, it is noticeable as Mr. Cassidy pointed out that our trade with China is at present shrinking, and this could have serious results, in spite of the extension of our entrepot trade elsewhere. In the chairman's opinion, the most important development of the Colony's trade has been with Japan and Korea, but with inevitable logic he was driven back to the basic fact that "our natural role is in relation to China." Anyone with the most elementary knowledge of economics will agree with this, and will hope that renewed enterprise on the part of our merchants and Government departments, plus a realisation of inescapable necessity by the mainland Chinese, will prevent that serious recession of trade which could all too easily happen.

WINSTON CHURCHILL'S WAR MEMOIRS: THE SECOND BOOK

THEIR FINEST HOUR

Situation In Spain By Winston Churchill

On May 17, 1940, after the German break-through in France, Mr. Churchill offered Sir Samuel Hoare (now Lord Templewood) the embassy in Madrid. In this instalment he surveys the situation in Spain with which the Ambassador was subsequently faced.

General Franco's policy throughout the war was entirely selfish and cold-blooded. He thought only of Spain and Spanish interests. Gratitude to Hitler and Mussolini for their help never entered his head. Nor, on the other hand, did he bear any grudge to England for the hostility of our Left-wing parties. This narrow-minded tyrant only thought about keeping his blood-drained people out of another war. They had had enough of war. A million men had been slaughtered by their brothers' hands. Poverty, high prices, and hard times from the closing of the ports, no more war for Spain, and no more war for Franco! Such were the commonplace sentiments with which he viewed and met the awful convulsion which now shook the world.

His Majesty's Government was quite content with this unheroic outlook. All we wanted was the neutrality of Spain. We wanted to trade with Spain. We wanted her ports to be denied to German and Italian submarines. We wanted not only an unimpaired Gibraltar, but the use of the anchorage of Algeiras for our ships and the use of the ground which joins the Rock to the mainland for our over-expanding air base. On these facilities depended in large measure our operations in the Mediterranean. Nothing was easier than for the Spaniards to mount an attack to be mounted a dozen heavy guns in the hills behind Algeiras. They had a right to do so at any time and, once mounted, they could at any moment be fired, and our naval and air bases would become unusable.

The Rock might once again stand a long siege, but it would be only a rock. Spain held the key to all British naval enterprises in the Mediterranean, and never in the darkest hours did she turn the lock against us. So great was the danger that for nearly two years we kept constantly at a few days' notice an expedition of over 5,000 men and their ships ready to seize the Canary Islands, by which we could maintain air and sea control over the U-boats, and contact with Australasia round the Cape, if ever the harbour of Gibraltar were denied to us by the Spaniards.

There was another very simple manner in which the Franco Government could have struck us a destructive blow. They could have allowed Hitler's troops to traverse the Peninsula, besiege and take Gibraltar for them, and meanwhile themselves occupy Morocco and French North Africa. This became a deep anxiety after the French Armistice, when on June 27, 1940, the Germans reached the Spanish frontier in force, and proposed fraternal ceremonial parades in San Sebastian and in towns beyond the Pyrenees. Some German troops actually entered Spain.

However, the Duke of Wellington wrote in April, 1820: "There is no country in Europe in the affairs of which foreigners can interfere with so little advantage as in those of Spain. There is no country in which foreigners are so much disliked, and even despised, and whose manners and habits are so little congenial with those of the other countries in Europe." Now, 120 years later, the Spaniards, reeling and quivering under the self-inflicted mutilations of the civil war, we wish to have foreign armies marching about their country. Even if they were Nazi and Fascist in their ideology, these morose people would rather have the foreigners' room than their own. Franco shared these feelings to the full, and in a most crafty manner he managed to give effect to them. We could admire his astuteness, even if it had been less useful to us.

The Spoils

Like everyone else, the Spanish Government was staggered by the sudden downfall of France and the expected collapse or destruction of Britain. Lots of people all over the world had reconciled themselves to the idea of the "New Order in Europe," the "Herrn-volk" and all that. Franco therefore indicated in June that he was prepared to join the victors and share in the distribution of the spoils. Partly from appetite and partly also from prudence, he made it clear that Spain had large claims.

But at this moment Hitler did not feel the need of Allies. He, like Franco, expected that in a few weeks or even days general hostilities would cease and England would be mired for terms. He therefore showed little interest in the gestures of active solidarity from Madrid. By August the scene had changed. It was certain that Britain would fight on and probably that the war would be lengthy. With the contemptuous British rejection of his "Peace Offer" of July 19, Hitler sought Allies, and to whom should he turn but to the dictator he had helped and who had so lately offered to join him? But Franco also had

a different outlook arising from the same causes. On August 1, the German Ambassador in Madrid informed Berlin that the Caudillo still held the same view, but that he had certain requests to make. First, the assurance that Gibraltar, French Morocco and part of Algeria, including Oran, should be given to Spain, together with various expansions of territory in the Spanish African colonies. Adequate military and economic assistance would also be necessary, because Spain had only enough grain for eight months.

The Issue

Finally, Franco felt that the intervention of Spain should not take place until after the German landing in England. "In order to avoid too premature an entry into the war, and thus a duration which would be unbearable to Spain and in conditions a course of danger for the regime." At the same time Franco wrote to Mussolini recapitulating Spanish claims and asking for his support.

Mussolini replied on August 25 by urging the Caudillo "not to cut himself off from the history of Europe." Hitler was emboldened by the size of the Spanish claims, some of which would enfold him anew with France. The taking of Oran from Franco would almost certainly lead to the setting up of a hostile French Government in North Africa. He balanced the issue.

Meanwhile the days were passing. During September Great Britain seemed to be holding her own against the German air offensive. The transfer of the 60 American destroyers had made a profound impression throughout Europe, and to Spain it seemed that the United States was moving nearer to the war. Franco and his Spaniards therefore pursued the policy of raising and making it difficult for the British to advance. Supplies also must be provided, particularly a number of 150 howitzers for the Spanish batteries facing Gibraltar. Meanwhile they paid the Germans in small coin.

Her Hopes

All the Spanish newspapers were Anglophobic. German agents were allowed to flaunt themselves all over Madrid. As the Spanish Foreign Minister, Beigbeder, was a confirmed lack of enthusiasm for Germany, a special envoy, Serrano Suner, head of the Falange, was sent on a formal visit to Berlin to smooth things over and preserve a sense of comradeship. Hitler harangued him at length, setting out the Spanish part in the advance against the United States. The war, he suggested, might well turn into a war of Continents—America against Europe. The islands off West Africa must be made secure. Later in the day Ribbentrop asked for an increased desire for Germany in the Canaries. Suner, the pro-German and Falangist, refused even to discuss this, but dwelt incessantly upon Spanish needs for modern weapons and food and petrol, and for the satisfaction of the increased demands at the expense of France. All this was necessary before Spain could realise her hopes of entering the war.

While the Spaniards became less ardent and more acquisitive, Hitler felt an increased desire for their help. He was strongly in favour of the assault on Gibraltar. But the Spanish terms were too high, and also by the end of September other ideas stirred his mind. On September 1, the Tripartite pact between Germany, Italy and Japan was signed in Berlin. This opened wider fields.

The Fuehrer now decided to throw his personal influence into the scale. On October 4 he met Ribbentrop in the Dranger Pass. He spoke of the high demands and dilatory procedure of the Spanish Government. He feared that to give Spain what she asked would have two immediate consequences: an English occupation of the Spanish bases in the Canaries and the admission of the French Empire in North Africa to de Gaulle's movement.

Final Phase

This, he said, would force the Axis seriously to extend their own sphere of operations. On the other hand he did not exclude the possibility of having the French

armed forces on his side in a European campaign against Great Britain. Mussolini dilated on his plans for the conquest of Egypt. Hitler offered him special units for this attack. Mussolini did not think he needed them, at least before the final phase.

On the Russian question Hitler remarked: "It is necessary to realise that my distrust of Stalin is equalled by his distrust of me." In any case, Molotov was coming in a short time to Berlin, and it would be the Fuehrer's task to direct Russian dynamism towards Italy.

Long War

The conversations, conducted through interpreters, lasted nine hours. They produced only a vague protocol and an arrangement for military conversations. "Rather than go through it again," Hitler told Mussolini later at Florence. "I would prefer to have three or four of my teeth out." Franco, now convinced of a long war and by no means sure of a German victory, used every device of exasperating delay and exorbitant demands. He was by this time so sure of Suner that on October 18 he made him Foreign Minister, representing the removal of Beigbeder as a proof of his devotion to the Axis. In November Suner was summoned to Berchtesgaden, and Hitler expressed his impatience with Spain's delay in coming into the war.

By now the Battle of Britain had been lost by the German Air Force. Italy was already involved in Greece and in North Africa. Serrano Suner did not respond as was wished. He dwelt lengthily upon the economic difficulties of the Peninsula. Three weeks later the German Admiral Canaris was sent to Madrid to arrange the details of Spain's entry into the war. He suggested that the German troops should pass the Spanish frontier on January 10, in preparation for an attack on Gibraltar on January 30. The Admiral was surprised when Franco told him that it was impossible for Spain to enter the war on the date mentioned. It seemed that the Caudillo feared the loss of Atlantic islands and Spanish colonies to the British Navy. He also emphasised the lack of food and the inability of Spain to stand a protracted war.

As the German landing in England seemed indefinitely postponed, Franco introduced a new condition. He would not move at any rate until Suez was in Axis hands, since not till then would he feel sure that Spain would not be involved in long-drawn-out hostilities.

Urgent Terms

On February 6, 1941, Hitler wrote a letter to Franco, appealing in strong and urgent terms that he should play the man without further delay. Franco replied expressing his undying loyalty. He urged that preparations for the attack on Gibraltar should be continued with renewed vigour. As another new point, he declared that only Spanish troops with German equipment must be used for this enterprise. Even if all this was arranged, Spain could not enter the war for economic reasons.

Ribbentrop thereupon reported to the Fuehrer that Franco had no intention of making war. Hitler was scandalised, but, being now set upon the invasion of Russia, he did not perhaps like the idea of trying Napoleon's other unsuccessful enterprise, the invasion of Spain, at the same time. Considerable Spanish forces were now gathered along the Pyrenees, and he felt it was wiser

to stick to his method with nations, "One by One." Thus by subtlety and trickery and blandishments of all kinds Franco succeeded in tiding things over and keeping Spain out of the war, to the inestimable advantage of Britain when she was all alone.

Greece was invaded by Mussolini on October 28, 1940, and General Metaxas invoked the British guarantee given 18 months earlier by Mr. Chamberlain. Mr. Churchill replied with a promise of "all the help in our power."

A PART from a few air squadrons, a British mission and perhaps some tank troops we had nothing to give, and even these trifles were a painful subtraction from ardent projects already lighting in the Libyan theatre. One salient strategic fact leaped out upon us—Crete! The Italians must not have it. We must get it first—and at once.

A Prize

It was fortunate that at this moment Mr. Eden was in the Middle East, and that I thus had a ministerial colleague on the spot with whom to deal. He was about to return home after his conference with Gen. Smuts at Khartoum. I telegraphed to him: Prime Minister to Mr. Eden (at Khartoum). 29.x.40. I reckon of prime importance to hold a naval fuelling base at Suba Bay and the best airfield possible. Successful defence of Crete is invaluable aid to defence of Egypt. Loss of Crete to [the] Italians [would] be a grievous aggravation [of] all Mediterranean difficulties. So great a prize is worth the risk, and almost equal to [a] successful offensive in Libya. Pray examine whole problem with Wavell and Smuts and do not hesitate to make proposals for action on large scale at expense of other sectors, at the same time asking for any further aid you require from here, including aircraft and anti-aircraft [batteries]. We are studying how to meet your need. Think your return to Cairo indispensable.

At the invitation of the Greek Government, Suba Bay, the best harbour in Crete, was occupied by our forces two days later. During Mr. Eden's earlier conferences and talks with Gen. Wavell and also with Gen. Wilson, he posed the question what action was intended if the Italian offensive did not develop. He was told in extreme secrecy that a plan was being made to attack the Italians in the Western Desert instead of waiting for them to open their offensive against Mersa Matruh. Neither he nor Wavell imparted these ideas to the Chiefs of Staff. Gen. Wavell begged the Secretary of State for War not to send any telegram on this subject, but to tell us verbally about it when he got home. Thus for some weeks we remained without knowledge of the way their minds were moving.

Great Risk It is clear from a message I had sent on October 26 that any forestalling operation on a large scale in the Western Desert would command my keen support. We were all, however, until Mr. Eden's return left under the impression that Wavell and Wilson were still wedded to the defensive battle at Mersa Matruh, and would wait there until they were attacked. The only action they seemed to contemplate in this extremely serious crisis was to send a battalion or so to Crete, a few air squadrons to Greece, and make some minor diversions against the Dodecanese and a

small though desirable offensive in the Sudan. This seemed by no means good enough employment for the very large forces with which at great risk, exertion and cost we had furnished them. Our correspondence during this period was thus on both sides based upon misunderstanding. Wavell and the Secretary of State thought that for the sake of giving ineffective aid to Greece we were pressing them to dissipate the forces they were gathering for an offensive in the Western Desert. We, on the other hand, not crediting them with offensive intentions, objected to their standing idle or trifling at such a crucial moment. In fact, as will presently be seen, we were all agreed. On November 1, indeed, Mr. Eden telegraphed cryptically:

We cannot from Middle East forces send sufficient air or land reinforcements to have any decisive influence upon course of fighting in Greece. To send such forces from here, or to divert reinforcements now on their way or approved, would imperil our whole position in the Middle East and jeopardise plans for an offensive operation now being laid in more than one theatre.

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(To Be Continued Tomorrow)



A "very comfortable week-end bungalow" is offered for sale "opposite the San Miguel Brewery." Or could be transformed into attractive beer garden?

"Soviet Base." Yes, I know.

American woman holds kite flying record. Nationalist government officials are reported to be green with envy.

Rocket and atom war—you've had it before you've heard it.

Walking into the house unannounced, he saw Butch, Mickey and I dining in rather boisterous informality. — From "Eisenhower Was My Boss," by Kay Summersby.

On fleets of socialism.... I suppose that "defected ship" was perished?

Recent news items tell of extensions on the Moscow Underground and the opening of new stations on the London system. Engineers at the British end are beginning to listen for the sound of picks.

Our tax "frees" may or may not be the highest in the world. If not, steps should immediately be taken to bring them into line with the rest of our economy.

At three o'clock, with the total at 160, a halt was called for drinks, Gordon having 77 and Thomas 78.—A record?

"So it worries you when your husband talks in his sleep?" "Yes, doctor—he's so indignant."

When little Henry returned from his first Sunday-school session, his mother asked him what he thought of it. "I didn't think much of that Joseph they told us about," he answered, "taking Mary on that long trip without making any reservations for her."

Parachute troops have to undergo a rigorous period of training, asserts an officer. They are kept at it until they are fit to drop.

Small though desirable offensive in the Sudan. This seemed by no means good enough employment for the very large forces with which at great risk, exertion and cost we had furnished them.

Our correspondence during this period was thus on both sides based upon misunderstanding. Wavell and the Secretary of State thought that for the sake of giving ineffective aid to Greece we were pressing them to dissipate the forces they were gathering for an offensive in the Western Desert. We, on the other hand, not crediting them with offensive intentions, objected to their standing idle or trifling at such a crucial moment. In fact, as will presently be seen, we were all agreed. On November 1, indeed, Mr. Eden telegraphed cryptically:

We cannot from Middle East forces send sufficient air or land reinforcements to have any decisive influence upon course of fighting in Greece. To send such forces from here, or to divert reinforcements now on their way or approved, would imperil our whole position in the Middle East and jeopardise plans for an offensive operation now being laid in more than one theatre.

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(To Be Continued Tomorrow)

Rinegolde

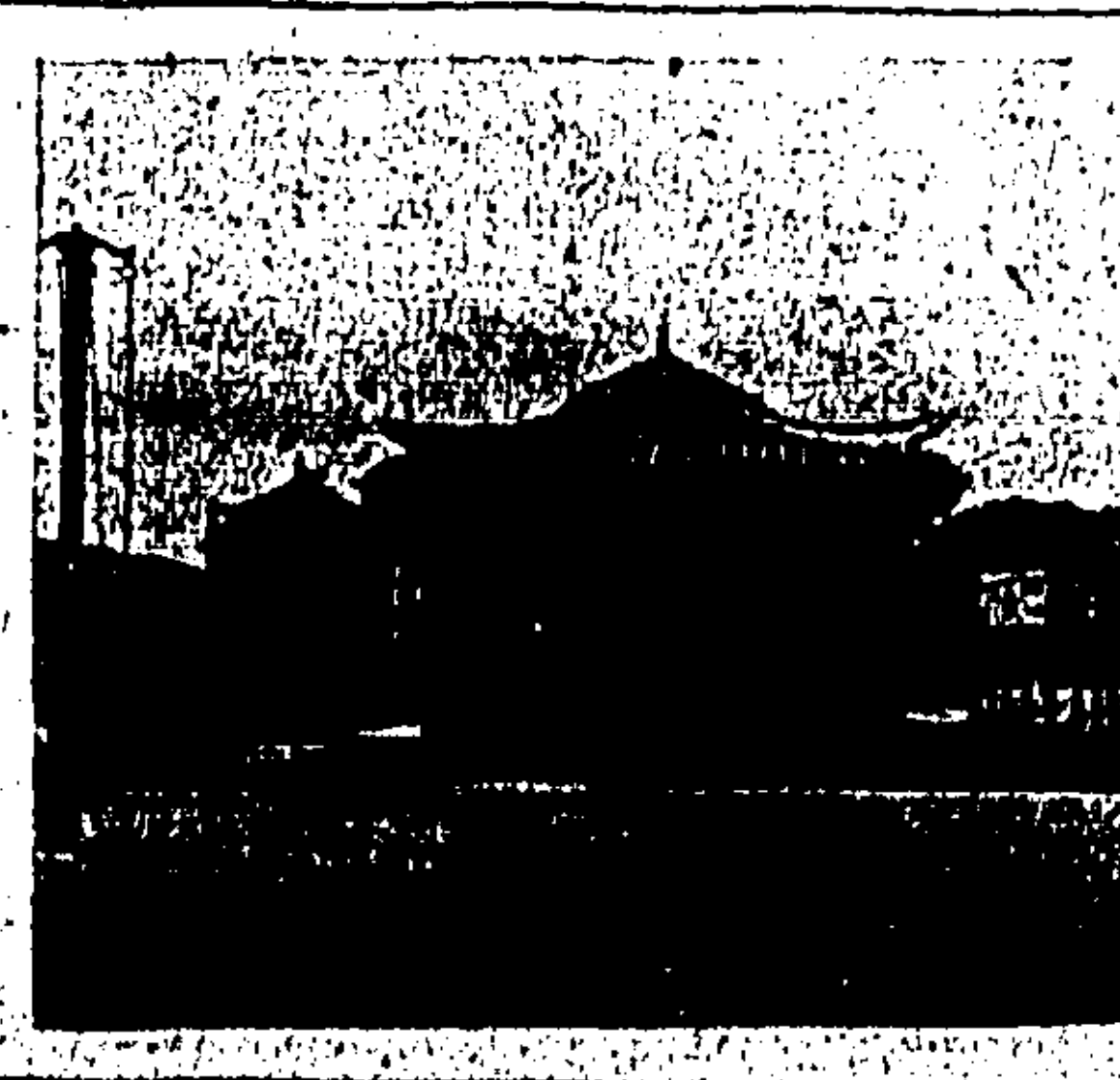
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Red Sympathisers Battle Mosley Parade In London

Comments On New Alliance

Washington, March 20. Although the great majority of United States newspapers supported the Atlantic Pact, some regarded the United States entry into it as a potentially dangerous move.

The New York World Telegram said: "This historic document has been forced by necessity. The value of the pact will depend on the speed with which our Allies with our help can create an adequate united defense without going either militaristic or bankrupt."

The Miami Daily News said: "This is a critical moment in history, a turning point for better or worse in world relations."

The Chicago Tribune said: "If the United States will be plunged eternally into the rancorous and wars of Europe, there is nothing in American history corresponding to this bare-faced assumption that any war anywhere in Europe for any cause of such concern to this country as automatically to cause us to fight."

The Charlotte News (North Carolina) said: "There is much talk about the pact being a moral and legal commitment to war. This nation has a practical commitment to oppose Russian aggression with American force."

The Indian Congress newspaper Hindustan Times commented today that the Atlantic Pact is "a testimony to the fact that the United Nations could not guarantee security."

The British-owned "Statesman" said: "The time may come when Westerners will be grateful to the Russians for having made them extend themselves."

The Australian opposition leader, Mr. Robert Menzies, hailed the Atlantic Pact as a regional organization with reality and strength—the best news the world has had since the war.

He added: "Why should not Australia, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, South Africa and other nations, not now parties to the pact but sharing our ideals of peace, join in?"

The Austrian Minister of the Interior, Mr. Oskar Helmer, said today that Austria must treat the Atlantic Pact with care to avoid being drawn into the whirlpool of world politics.

Speaking at Buchberg, Lower Austria, the Minister said that Austria, jammed between the East and West, could only look for protection from all the people of the world.—Reuter.

Shostakovich Off For U.S.

London, March 20. Composer Dmitri Shostakovich and six other Russian artists left Moscow today for the United States, the Russian news agency, Tass, reported.

They are to attend an American Congress of Scientists and Artists. The group, besides Shostakovich, included Alexander Fadeyev, general secretary of the Soviet Writers' Union, Alexander Oparin, member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Piotr Pavlov, a writer, Mikhail Chlaurell, and Sergei Gerassimov, who bear the titles of People's Artists of the Soviet Union, and Ipan Agzhalsky, secretary of the delegation.—Associated Press.

Police Units Charge 5,000 Demonstrators Eighteen Arrested

London, March 20. Crowds fought hand to hand and stoned motor buses in London's East End tonight as more than 5,000 Communist supporters and other anti-Fascists tried to break up a march by 150 members of Sir Oswald Mosley's Union Movement.

Glass marbles, steel ball-bearings and fireworks were thrown in the roadways to impede mounted police as they charged up and down, clearing a way for the procession.

Eighteen people, including several women, were arrested. Eight policemen were injured.

Policemen rode in vehicles at the head and end of the column, which was flanked by constables on foot at yard intervals. Another 12 mounted police and 200 on foot followed the marchers.

Long lines of traffic were held up. The trouble tonight began when a Union Movement speaker mounted a loudspeaker van in Ridley Road, Dalston, the scene of many previous clashes between Mosley supporters and anti-Fascists.

One hundred police, part of a large force drawn from all parts of London, battled with a crowd trying to break into the street. Mounted and foot police cleared the area around the van, forming a cordon four deep.

Foot constables stood shoulder to shoulder with locked arms as the crowd tried to press towards the van. Each speaker was flanked by a bodyguard of two young men in black or dark blue battle dress type suits with broad leather belts. One held a large Union Jack and the other a Union Movement flag.

The Home Secretary, Mr. James Chuter Ede, on Friday rejected requests to ban the march. The Union Movement includes former members of the pre-war Union of Fascists, of which Mosley was the leader.

A deputation of mayors, town clerks and Members of Parliament, representing the three East London boroughs affected, urged that the procession might cause serious public disorder. The area has a large Jewish population.

Shortly before the march was due to start, 2,000 anti-Fascists took up positions in the neighbourhood, shouting: "Down with Fascism!" and "They shall not march."

Fireworks Thrown

Fireworks were thrown as mounted police galloped up and down the road attempting to break the crowd into small groups.

By a last-minute decision, the police diverted the march of the Union supporters from the hostile area and routed them through back streets.

The 150 marchers were preceded by a police radio car and flanked by constables on foot at intervals of about a yard. A dozen mounted police, 200 on foot and three motor coach loads of constables brought up the rear.

The Mosley supporters marched behind a band of big drums, side drums and cymbals.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS CHINA AID

Washington, March 21. A newly formed China Emergency Committee said yesterday the U.S. still can help China effectively in her battle against Communists by quickly providing economic and military aid along with moral support.

Frederick C. McKee, chairman, said the purpose of the Committee is to present to the American people the facts concerning the present situation in China and how it affects the U.S.

Mr. McKee said in a statement that the government could give China tremendous moral support by issuing a clear promise of aid against the Reds. He suggested:

1. Provision of economic aid, including loans secured by customs duties or exports.

2. Sending a military mission to China similar to the U.S. mission now in Greece.

3. Providing military supplies, such as light equipment, small arms and ammunition.

Mr. McKee said among those associated with him in forming the Committee were: Rev. Irvin C. Wise of Blackwood, New Jersey; Rev. Frederick Brown Harris, Washington, D.C., who is chaplain of the Senate; and attorneys F. Trowbridge von Baur of Washington and Ernest M. Curtis of Atlantic City, New Jersey.—Associated Press.

Hecklers Removed From Church

London, March 20. Seventeen men and women, including a priest, members of the National Union of Protestants, which claims that the saying of Mass in an English church is illegal, were forcibly removed by the police today after they had interrupted an Anglican Church service.

They shouted "In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we condemn this Mass as a blasphemous farce."

Similar protests have been made in several London churches. The police had been forewarned of today's demonstration.

The 10,000 strong National Union of Protestants, which maintained the saying of Mass in a Church of England church is illegal. After the demonstrators had been hurried out of the church by about 12 policemen, their spokesman, the Reverend Allison, secretary of the Union, said: "We all went quietly. We wished to make our protest as dignified as possible."

He claimed that the Articles of the Church of England gave them the right to enter churches and condemn the saying of Mass.—Reuter.

C. D. Huscher, president of the Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce, sent the letters in the name of the 1,500 residents of Fallbrook, an avocado and citrus community.

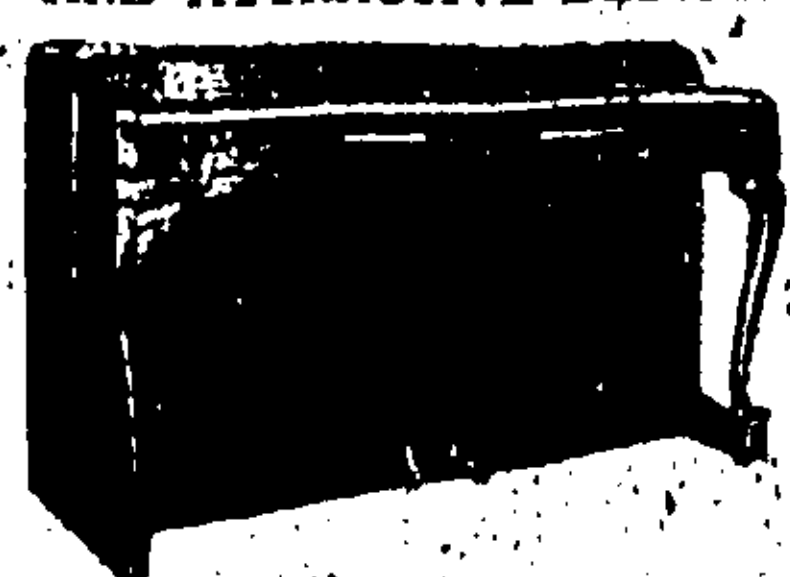
In a letter to Stalin, Mr. Huscher said: "We, the people of the country, do not desire to continue the wasteful cost, unceasing vigilance and barbaric preparations of another war, nor do we believe that is the desire of the people of your country."

The letter to President Truman said: "Actually there are in the United States thousands of similar small towns whose people believe as we do. We initiate this invitation because the Government property Camp Pendleton, with adequate and comfortable quarters, is our immediate neighborhood."

In drafting the invitation, the Chamber decided that Fallbrook afforded the serenity for a world peace meeting and would be a more suitable and peaceful scene for such a meeting than required by the protocol of our nation's capital.—United Press.

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Jap Govt Awaiting SCAP Budget Note

Tokyo, March 20.

The entire machinery of the Japanese national government is now at a standstill, awaiting a memorandum from General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters regarding the new Japanese budget.

Striking evidence of the direct part SCAP is now openly playing in Japanese affairs was reflected in statements by the Cabinet spokesman that no message to the new Japanese Diet will be made until the SCAP's budget suggestions have been received.

In the last analysis, that means recommendations—certain to be carried out—by General MacArthur's financial adviser, Mr. Joseph M. Dodge.

The slight gray haired president of the Detroit Bank is now the closest thing Japan ever had to an economic czar. Until his arrival in Tokyo on February 1, the final word on Japan's economic programme was spread diffusely through General MacArthur's Headquarters with the Economic and Scientific Section having the decisive say.

But Major General William Marquat, Chief of the ESS, is now telling American and Japanese business men and officials alike: "You will have to clear it with Mr. Dodge."

Mr. Dodge's hard-boiled conservative policy is dedicated to put Japan on a self-sustaining basis at any cost—and the first step is to balance the budget. This means higher taxes, more taxes and stricter tax enforcement.

While the Japanese are prepared to carry out the recommendations or risk the end of American aid, they are not doing so with their traditional smile on their face.

They are nearly all grumbling—from the wage earner, who is being told by the Communists not to pay taxes, to the business man who says they are being ruined.

Even Allied business men in Japan are being hit. Japanese tax collectors spurred by necessity are now collecting taxes on automobiles bought by foreigners registered as traders in Japan.

This sometimes comes to 35,000 yen for licenses (US\$125 at the military conversion rate) depending on the city where the car is registered.

At the same time government workers anxiously are awaiting to see how many will get the sack when Mr. Dodge puts into operation the government reorganization plan to cut excess personnel from the payrolls.

The answer to this and the question of how many next taxes will be imposed will be found in the cabinet's budget message to the Diet. Since the Japanese fiscal year begins April 1, the budget is expected to be presented by March 28.—United Press.

RED MEETING BANNED

Ban Benoni, Transvaal, March 20.

Mr. C. E. Swart, South African Minister of Justice, today banned under the Riotous Assemblies Act a Communist meeting which was to have been held in an African location here.

Mr. Sam Khan, the only Communist member of the House of Assembly, who was to have addressed the meeting, was stopped by the police. They refused him admission to the area on the grounds that he had no permit to enter the location.

Police guarded all roads.—Reuter.

S. A. C.



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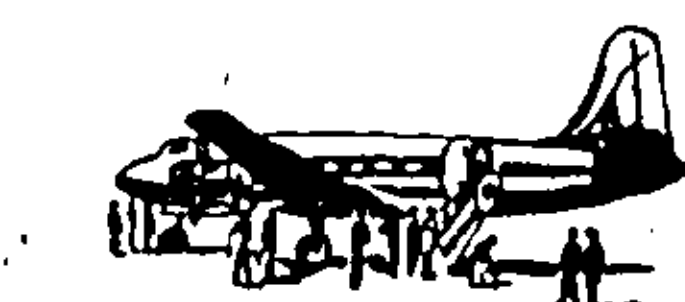
	Wednesday	23rd. March
BANGKOK	Friday	25th. "
SINGAPORE	Friday	25th. "
MANILA	Saturday	26th. "
MANILA	Monday	28th. "
BANGKOK	Monday	28th. "
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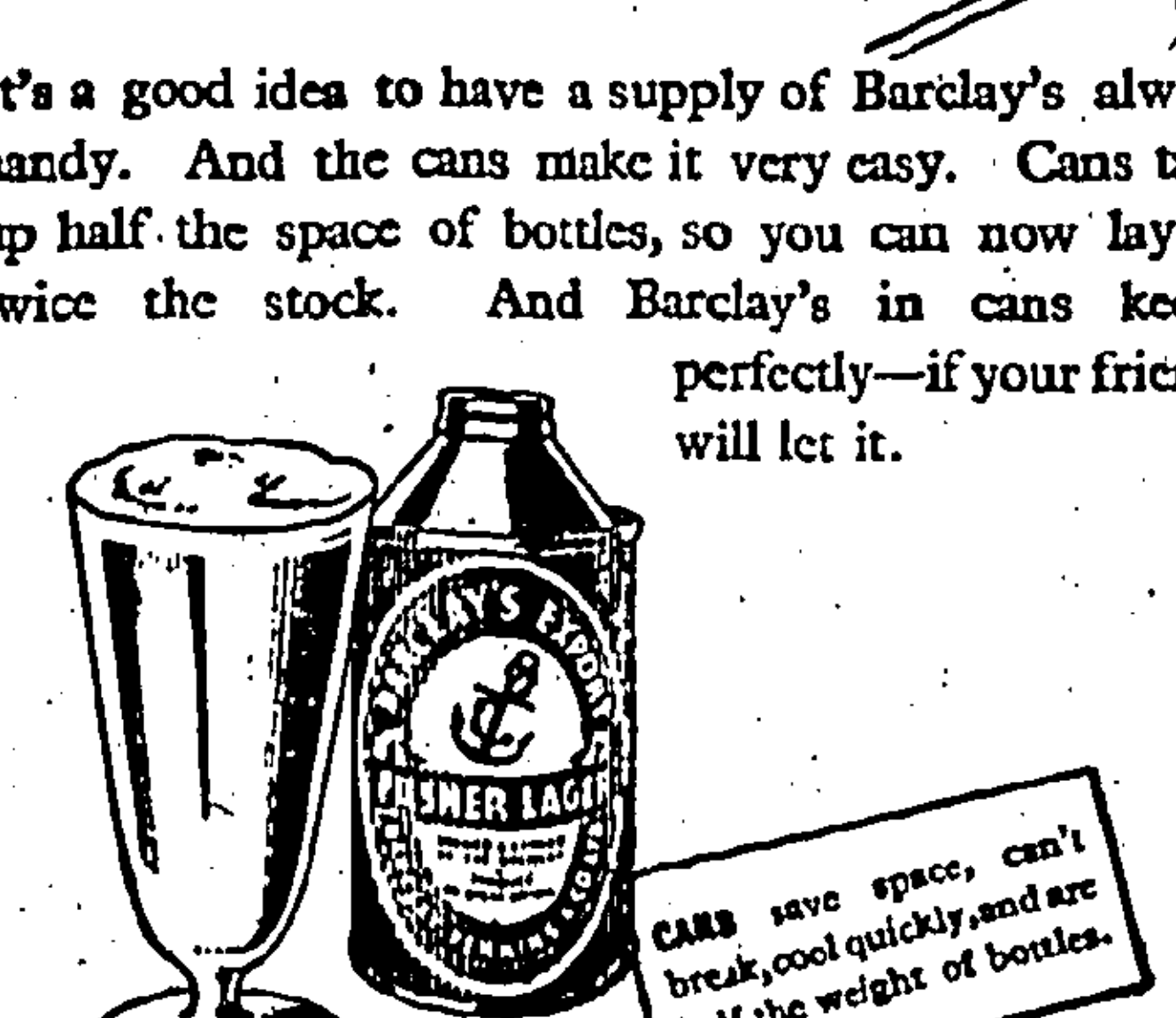
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ISRAEL, LEBANON SIGN ARMISTICE; TALKS WITH TRANSJORDAN CONTINUE

Arabs Meet On Refugee Problems

Beirut, March 20. Delegates from seven Arab countries arrived here today for a conference on the 600,000 Arab refugees in Palestine, called for tomorrow by the United Nations Conciliation Committee.

The Arabs and members of the Conciliation Committee met separately this afternoon. The Egyptian delegation is led by the Foreign Minister, Ahmed Khushaba Pasha. Transjordan is represented by its Prime Minister, Tewfik Pasha Abulhuda. Syria is represented by its Prime Minister, Khaleel El Azem. The Lebanon is represented by its Prime Minister, Hamid Frangie. Head of the Arab Department of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, Awad Khalidi, leads the Iraq delegation. Saudi Arabia and the Yemen are represented respectively by Sheikh Yussuf Yusif and Ali Mowayed A.

A Tel Aviv despatch to the New York Times, quoting a reliable source, said that the French Government has decided to lift the embargo on the sale of arms to Syria and the Lebanon.

A Syrian purchasing delegation was in Paris, arranging for a shipment of weapons and ammunition, the despatch added. The arms were said to be designed to help the countries meet their internal problems and not to strengthen the armies facing Israel.

In Cairo, the absence of Iraq's representatives from the session of the Arab League Council, now being held in Cairo, was regarded as a serious matter in political quarters here today.

Arab politicians were discussing whether Iraq had withdrawn from the League. The Secretary-General of the Arab League, Azzam Pasha, told newsmen that he could give no explanation of Iraq's non attendance and added that "Iraq had not even forwarded an apology for its absence from the Council's meetings."

The former Mayor of Jaffa, Ali Effendi Mohammed Mustakim, who left Palestine at the beginning of the disturbances, was reported to have been refused admission to the country when he returned to Haifa today from Cyprus. He came ashore at Haifa from the Italian passenger ship Abbaria with a passport issued under the Mandate, but without an Israeli visa.—Reuter.

PAYMENTS TO UNEMPLOYED

Washington, March 21. Government payments to unemployed workers rose to \$115,000,000 in February, the highest total in three years, the Bureau of Employment Security reported.

The amount was more than \$58,000,000 above the January payments.

Unemployment benefits fixed by the various state legislatures, but paid by the Federal Government, averaged about \$20 a week.—Associated Press.

Ras En Nakura, March 21. Israeli and Lebanese delegates signed an armistice agreement on Sunday night.

The UN Mediator, Mr. Ralph J. Bunche, informed the Israel government in Tel Aviv that Syria has agreed to enter into armistice negotiations with Israel.

Jewish authorities said these talks—the fourth with their Arab neighbours—would probably be held soon along the Israeli-Syrian frontier.

The Lebanese-Israeli agreement will be signed ceremoniously here on Wednesday.

This is the second armistice agreement between the young Jewish state and her Arab neighbour. An armistice with Egypt was signed last month. Talks with Transjordan are underway. Israeli-Lebanese negotiations have been in progress in this sea-coast village on the Lebanon-Palestine border since March 1. Lebanon, like Egypt and Transjordan, is a member of the Arab League.

It was announced tonight in Haifa that the Lebanese will return the six Israeli prisoners taken by them since the start of the Palestine war, and the Israelis will return their 30 prisoners from the Lebanese armed forces next Thursday. The exchange will take place at Ras En Nakura.

Mr. Rouben Shiloah, head of the Israeli delegation at the armistice talks with Transjordan, said tonight that he expected an agreement would be reached within a fortnight.

Lieutenant Colonel Moshe Dayan, of the Israeli delegation, and Captain Ali Abu Nawar of Transjordan, arrived with fresh instructions from their Governments for the start of the second phase of the negotiations. During the three-day adjournment, both sides have compiled a list of subjects they wish to bring up when the drafting of the agreement starts tomorrow.

The points at issue include: 1. The numbers of troops and the types and size of equipment each country would be permitted to retain behind the armistice lines.

Akaba Issue

2. The presence of British troops in the Akaba sector of Transjordan, and the Southern armistice lines from the Dead Sea to Akaba.

3. The Iraqi-garrisoned "triangle" in Palestine, over which Israel was understood to wish to conduct separate negotiations with Iraq.

4. The armistice lines in the area immediately to the west of the Dead Sea. Transjordan claims to be maintaining a mobile patrol there, while Israel says she is occupying the area, which was allotted to her by the United Nations Palestine partition plan of November, 1947.

A Syrian envoy arrived at Rhodes yesterday to discuss with the United Nations acting Palestine Mediator, Dr. Ralph Bunche, his country's acceptance of invitation to open armistice talks with Israel.

A despatch from Damascus said the Gaza "All-Palestine Government," recognised by all the Arab League States except Transjordan, today told Syria that it would reject all agreements reached on Palestine without its prior approval.

In a memorandum, the Gaza Government said it had been totally neglected in the political talks on Palestine. It would decide its own plan to "proceed

fighting with good faith and the co-operation of all Arab nations."

At Rhodes, observers at the United Nations Palestine headquarters were tonight discussing the possibility that individual armistice agreements with all Israel's neighbours might be concluded before the end of April.

Syria's reported willingness to open negotiations and the start of the second phase of the talks with Transjordan in Rhodes tomorrow leaves only Iraq to open negotiations. An armistice with Egypt was signed on February 24.

Mr. Farid Zein Ed Din, Secretary-General of the Syrian Foreign Office, returned to Damascus today from Rhodes, where he met Dr. Bunche. He said he conferred with Dr. Bunche for six hours, but refused to give any further information until he had seen the Prime Minister, Khaleel El Azem.

On the situation in Akaba, where, according to Transjordan, Israeli troops attacked Arab Legion positions two weeks ago, no further news was available. It is known that Dr. Bunche has received detailed information on the position in the Eastern Negev.

Meanwhile, delegates from seven Arab countries arrived in Beirut today for a conference on the 600,000 Arab refugees in Palestine, which the United Nations Conciliation Committee has called for tomorrow.—Associated Press and Reuter.

'MAID OF ATHENS' RETURNS

London, March 21. Miss Liana Kremzi, aged 22, of Athens, who was recently awarded £10,500 damages in a breach of promise case in the High Court, London, left London by air for Athens yesterday morning for a long holiday at her home.

Known as "The Maid of Athens" for her resistance work, Miss Kremzi accepted only £2,200 of the damages which were awarded against an English Naval officer, Lieutenant Commander Tom Ridgeway.

She said before leaving that she would take her £8,000 trust money but added that she will never wear or sell the clothes she bought for her wedding. "I may give them to poor brides," she said.

"It will be wonderful to be home again. Mum says she has been tearing Athens to get her things and to see my favourite British fare—in readiness for my return. No one eats them in Greece," Miss Kremzi added.

She said she was taking heaps of new clothes back to Athens as they are 10 times as expensive in Greece. She hopes later to return to England.

Miss Kremzi is due in Athens at 12.45 GMT today.—Associated Press.

Mediterranean Pact Denied

Washington, March 20. United States officials today emphatically denied reports that the United States had planned to discuss the possibility of a Mediterranean pact, similar to the Atlantic treaty, with the Turkish Foreign Minister, Necmeddin Sadak, when he comes to the United States to head the Turkish delegation to the United Nations Assembly next month.

The officials said no special invitation had been issued for Mr. Sadak to visit Washington during his stay in the United States, but added that he would be most welcome if he came to Washington.—United Press.

U.S. Silent On Trip Of Annam Prince

Washington, March 21. The U.S. State Department declined to comment on the statement of Annamite Prince Cuong De that he would soon leave Tokyo to direct the "Vietnam League of Independence" quest for freedom from France.

The State Department said there had been no exchange of messages between the Prince and the United States government.

(The Prince made a similar statement last June, but remained in Tokyo. He is the uncle of the Emperor Bao Dai of Annam, with whom the French made a deal on March 8 seeking to settle the long warfare in Indo-China.

(Under that agreement, Bao Dai is to return to Indo-China from France on April 25 with French officials, and the three Indo-Chinese states of Annam, Tonkin and Indo-China, can merge either into a monarchy or republic.

(The new state could have its own diplomatic relations with certain countries, and its own army, but the French would remain.

(His nephew's arrangement evidently accounts for Prince Cuong's announcement of his own plans. Last June he said he wanted to help Bao Dai regain the throne and had been offered a post as adviser in Tokyo on Sunday, he indicated he had changed his mind.)—Associated Press.

Narcotics Ring Cracked, Three Arrested

New York, March 20. The police said today that they had cracked a giant narcotics racket with the aid of a woman detective who posed as a maid in the rooming house where ring leaders had stored nearly \$2,000,000 worth of pure cocaine.

The detectives seized two brothers, Ralph and John Lopez, and Jose Gonzales and described them as nation-wide distributors who sold cocaine in large cities across the country.

In the rooming house, detectives found a large suitcase crammed with 110 to 115 ounces of pure cocaine, which would be worth \$1,850,000 when diluted and packed in capsules.

The police said Detective Mabel Leonard got a job as a domestic in the building where the men had rented a two-room apartment. Two narcotics Squad detectives and two Federal narcotics agents closed in on the men last night.

The police said that when the detectives seized the suitcase of drugs, the men offered them a \$15,000 bribe and a cut of any future business. If the detectives would not arrest them.—United Press.

MOSCOW'S HYSTERICAL PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST NEW TREATY

London, March 20. Moscow Radio, in an almost hysterical propaganda campaign against the Atlantic Pact, said today that a similar agreement for the Pacific area would be a supplement to the general plan of "Anglo-America" for world domination. Voicing threats and ridicule in effect to draw nations away from the pact, Moscow Radio broadcast thousands of words in the most intense effort since the cold war began.

During the course of the broadcast, it declared that India, Pakistan, New Zealand, Australia and Ceylon along with Canada could be expected as possible members to the pact as the obedient tools of the Anglo-Americans.

Time after time, the broadcast said, Russia—if given a chance—could lead the world to peace. Time after time, the broadcast claimed the West was heading for a disaster.

Moscow's propaganda statements—12 in 18 hours—virtually called a roll of the wavering countries. This is what Moscow had to say about:

Italy—Italy's signing of the Atlantic pact would violate the Italian peace treaty but the treaty has already been violated because American forces are operating in Italy's former North African colonies and units of the American Navy are "based" at Italian ports. The Italian peace provided that all occupation forces should leave the country.

Austria—Reports that Austria might be invited into the Atlantic pact have evoked strong indignation from progress-minded people in Austria.

Spanish Bases

Spain—The United States is trying to sneak Spain into the Atlantic pact and already has established its base there, shipping equipment from German arms plants.

Sweden—Major General Hils Svedlund, Chief of the Spanish Defence Staff, by making statements in violation of trust is trying to push Sweden into the embrace of Anglo-American imperialism.

Pacific Pact—This would be a "supplement" to the Atlantic pact as a tool for aggression... one of the links in the general plan to establish Anglo-American world domination. So it went for hour after hour.

The broadcast slipped in a denial of the recent British charge that Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary plotted with Russia to build armies larger than their peace treaties allowed and there were few side references to a possible Mediterranean pact.

Radio Moscow was equally scathing on Scandinavia and France. It said regarding Scandinavia generally: American imperialism intend to subjugate Scandinavia with the object of establishing military strong points. The United States is existing gross pressure on these countries to join the North Atlantic pact, especially on Norway.

France—France's consent for American air bases in French possessions deals a hard blow at American national interests and places her in complete dependence on the United States.

Earlier, Moscow Radio broadcast a report attributed to a diplomatic correspondent that Americans are setting up military and air bases in Spain and are negotiating the establishment of new strategic centres there.

It said that Franco Spain is to be converted into one of the most important military strategic bridgeheads for future aggression in Europe implied by the North Atlantic Pact and by the new Mediterranean bloc.

Pravda was quoted as saying that the United States is taking steps to consolidate her economic and strategic position in Spain. It said that American monopolies are not only capturing all key positions in the Spanish industry but are restoring the German military industry.—United Press.

SWEDES ARE BAFFLED BY LETTERS

New York, March 20. The "Herald Tribune" today reported that it had found Robert Farr, aged 28, the man who started the "pen pal" programme of international friendship letters which left 40,000 letters piled up at Bromma Airfield at Stockholm, Sweden.

In a telephone interview from Pittsburgh, the "Herald Tribune" learned that Farr's project had mushroomed to such proportions that he was forced to abandon it and take a public relations job in Pittsburgh to get away from it all.

Farr said the programme took all his time and had cost US\$5,000 of his money, plus \$800 in contributions. He commented that it was "50 times bigger than I expected—but I am not hiding."

He promised to get in touch with the appropriate quarters and try to straighten out the mess at Stockholm, which he had picked as his distributing headquarters.

All the letters there are addressed to him and the Swedish authorities are baffled as to what to do with them.—United Press.

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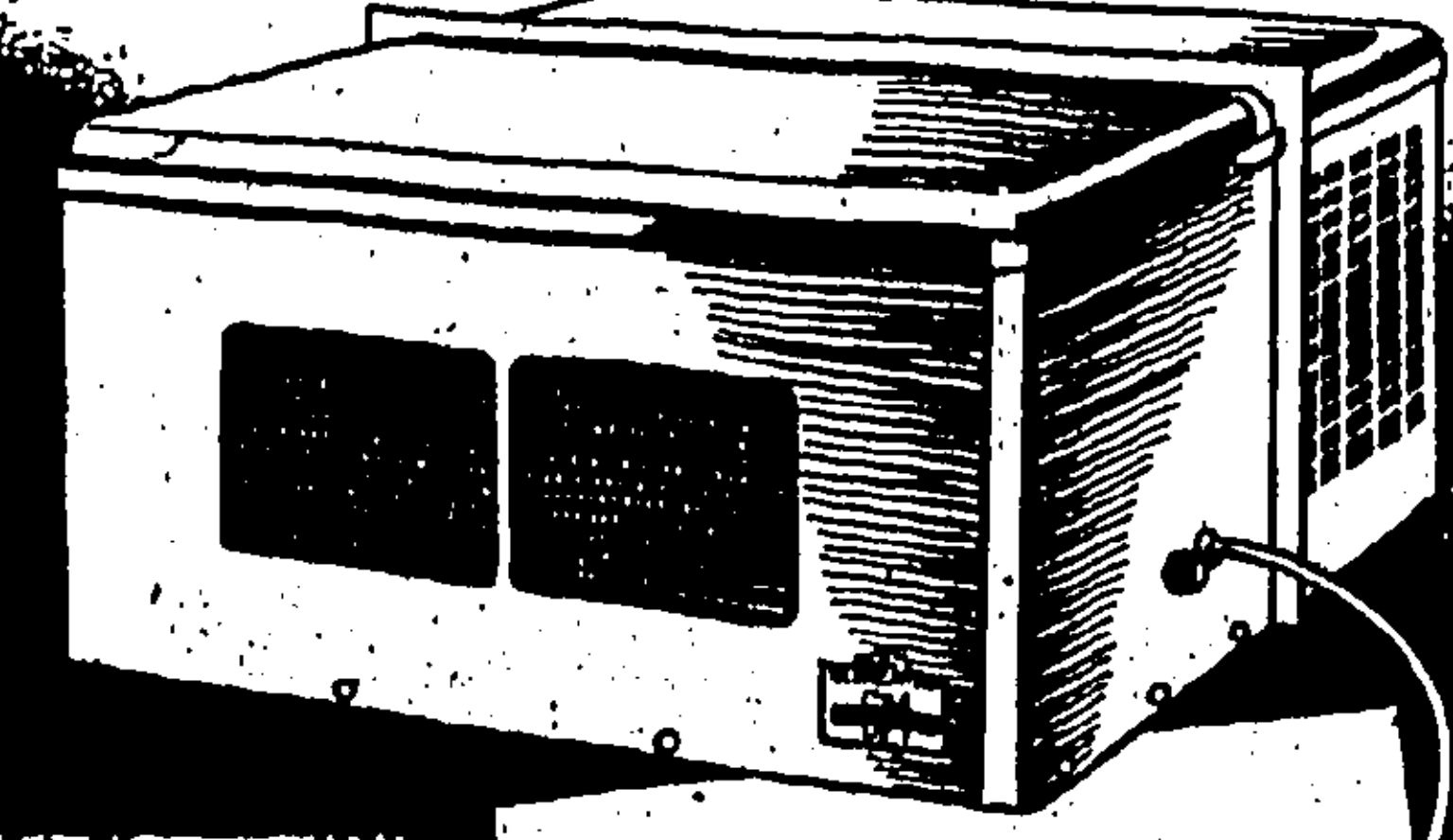


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FULL TEXT OF MR. P.S. CASSIDY'S SPEECH

(Continued from Page 2)

"The mass of wreckage which was the legacy of Occupation times has been cleaned up and more and more small craft are now available for harbour work. As the Chamber's representative on the Port Executive Committee for the past two-and-a-half years, I should like to testify to the great service rendered to the commercial community by the staff of the Marine Department, the Director of which, Mr. Jolly, has proved himself an able administrator who is not only efficient in the highest sense of the word but is always ready to be of service to merchants and shipping interests, and to help solve their problems.

"We are fortunate in being extremely well served by wharf and godown organisations, and there seems to be no doubt that Hong Kong has no rival for a quick turn-round of vessels. It is also pleasing from the merchants' point of view that our goods are brought from overseas or despatched to world markets by speedy cargo vessels which are in so many cases a credit to the British shipbuilder. Our own ship-building industry has been handicapped by shortage of steel and other supplies, but there has been considerable activity in repair work and the reputation of the local yards for first-class, reliable work stands as high as ever it did.

"You will notice in the report a section on Insurance which requires no amplification on my part. I must, however, say a word about the unusual series of fires which have occurred of recent months. Hong Kong has, on the

whole, been remarkably free from fires of a serious nature, although in the past there have been some dreadful disasters at intervals.

Fire Epidemic

"Recently fires seem to have reached epidemic incidence, and it is extremely important that all precautions should be taken to prevent outbreaks occurring. There is no doubt that the abnormal demand for storage space has led to risks being taken with dangerous goods, but I feel sure that the recommendations of the Committee of Enquiry into the Wing On Godown disaster will be put into effect.

"I think that recent experience has shown how important it is that regulations designed to provide safeguards against fire should be scrupulously observed.

"The part played by aviation in business life grows in importance every day. The figures of passengers and cargo handled by the Airport at Kai Tak are most impressive and, despite the physical drawbacks, together with the uncertainty about the future, the organisation of the airport has reached a relatively high standard of efficiency.

"It is also worthy of note that a new industry has appeared in connection with the maintenance of aircraft, and we hope that this will grow in importance in much the same way that our shipbuilding and repair industry has in relation to the report.

"So far we do not know what progress has been made towards building a new airport. It is of vital importance that the Colony should keep abreast of the times for we cannot afford to find ourselves out of step because of inadequate ground facilities for modern airlines.

"I hope that Government will let the public know what they propose to do and whether there is likely to be any difficulty about arranging the necessary finance.

"Probably due to preoccupation with a few disasters have been reported to the Chamber, but as competition intensifies, it is likely that members will be more inclined to insist upon a strict observance of contractual obligations. We have, therefore, received the Arbitration Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. G. W. Sewell who served in pre-war days.

"As quoted in a recent Quarterly Bulletin, we have the authority of the Lord Chief Justice as to the value of award made in commercial cases by skilled persons deliberately chosen by the parties themselves or some representative body on their behalf.

"Members wishing to resort to arbitration may, therefore, make use of the Chamber for that purpose. For some time past we have had a roster of technical experts and during the course of the year more than 30 surveys were carried out under the auspices of the Chamber.

Membership Up

"Membership again shows a gratifying increase, the number at December 1, 1948, being 504, as compared with 432 a year previously. In extending a hearty welcome to our new members I would point out that our organisation is always at their service, and I feel sure that they will get the assistance they require.

"The Accounts show a substantial increase in income, but this has been offset by much heavier expenditures. We decided that as our Secretary and his family had been living in one room in a hotel for some months, we ought to make proper provision for his accommodation. We therefore bought No. 173, The Peak, which I hope you will consider a good investment.

"Our main source of income is, of course, membership fees, but you will notice that fees for certificates amounted to \$37,500. We have used a good portion of our income to write down property and furniture and we carry forward \$8,004 to the new account.

"Our staff has had a very busy year, and has had to deal with a multitude of problems and inquiries. Since I succeeded to the Chair I have realised more than ever how well served the Chamber is by a willing and loyal staff. Mr. Kite is rapidly acquiring the experience which

goes to make the ideal Secretary, and I am very grateful to him for the assistance he has given me.

"This Chamber is a Member of the Federation of Chamber of Commerce of the British Empire, the 10th Congress of which was held in Johannesburg in September last. We have recently received a copy of the Report which is available to members on application to the Secretary.

"Under the heading of International Payments one section of the Report deals with a proposal of the London Chamber of Commerce that a system of Multi-lateral Contract-accounts be considered between all Commonwealth Governments in the first place with a view to its adoption throughout the trading world.

"Briefly, the system aims at finding a solution to the problem of how countries with adverse balance of trade are to achieve equilibrium, and its essential feature is that nations should recognise that exports can only be paid for by imports.

China Situation

"Before I wind up, I feel I ought to say a word about the situation in China. Not unnaturally, most of our overseas friends have been apprehensive as to the effect of the political changes which have taken place during the past few months, and more particularly in regard to the spread of hostilities in a Southward direction.

"I feel it is a mistake to assume that the basic character of the Chinese merchant will be changed by any political creed adopted in his country. By nature he is an individualist, and it is our hope and belief that his inclination to trade will not allow his country to be fenced in and subjected to domination by any foreign influence.

"Some of our recent distinguished visitors have expressed surprise at what appeared to them to be an unjustified complacency on our part, and we have been accused of wishful thinking, but I think the answer is that we prefer to direct our energy to trade rather than to use it up by running round in circles wondering what to do next.

"We have the assurance of His Majesty's Government that it has not in mind any change in the status of Hong Kong. We may, of course, suffer internal disorders, but we have every hope that the good sense of the inhabitants of this Colony will effectively scotch any underground efforts on the part of agitators.

"The Colony now possesses a police force which has reached a high standard of efficiency never before achieved, and we feel confident that the Commissioner of Police and his capable staff have the internal situation well in hand.

"But the Police may very well require the support of military force and I hope that members who are eligible for active participation in the Hong Kong Defence Force will enrol and will encourage the members of their staff to do so, and that those who feel that their soldiering days are over will register for the essential services.

"I have been here at the outbreak of two world wars and I have seen the rush to join up which on both occasions put a severe strain on the existing organisation. It is in the interests of all concerned that enrolment should proceed in an orderly manner and although some of us may have grounds for criticism I think we must accept the fact that the Force is now established and should have our full support.

"Provided law and order can be maintained here as it has been so effectively since the liberation, then we need have no fear that our Chinese farmer will go on working and his produce will find its way down to the coast; the Chinese trader will not be put off getting goods into the country; and, finally, we can feel confident that the high seas will be safe for our ocean shipping.

"Seconding Mr. Cassidy's speech, Mr. J. H. Waring said:

Unique Position

"When we compare Hong Kong with almost any other place in any country which has suffered directly from the last war, we find that conditions here—gen-

erally—compare most favourably with those elsewhere. When we limit this comparison to the Far East, we cannot but conclude that Hong Kong on the whole positively shines out in rather a unique position. This of course is primarily due to the peaceful conditions prevailing here, to the blessing of having a stable Government maintaining law and order, to the absence of any serious labour trouble, but also thanks to Hong Kong having a sound and fixed currency and to trading in general being relatively free from too stringent controls.

"These factors, coupled with Hong Kong's natural possibilities as a key port to this part of the world, have enabled an energetic and efficient business community to re-establish and to develop Hong Kong to what it is again today, a most important commercial centre.

"We all know that we can look back at a very satisfactory year. A certain, and not unimportant, part of the credit for this achievement is due to the functions performed by the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce.

"This Chamber has not only proved again during the past year its great usefulness to commerce in this Colony, but I should like to go further and say that it has played an essential part in the interests of Hong Kong as a trading centre.

"Taking into consideration the extensive and varied activities, the standing and considerable practical experience of the members of the general and sub-committees combined with a capable staff a very high standard of work performed is ensured. It is therefore understandable that it must have been a great disappointment to the Chamber when Government unfolded a preliminary plan in future to maintain contact with the commercial community through an Advisory Board known as the Board of Trade.

"Far be it from me as a foreigner, enjoying hospitality in this Colony, to offer criticism to Government. However, I would venture to ask when seeking advice with regard to any matter or problem affecting commerce and industry of this Colony, where could Government be better served than by the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce? This Chamber has a standing of 80 years, during which it has constantly and steadfastly lived up to the primary object: To Watch Over and Protect The General Interests of Commerce.

"The Chamber can call at any time on those members of the business community considered to be most qualified and expert to handle any particular problem affecting commerce. The knowledge and extensive practical experience, especially also local experience, of those called upon to render advice form a guarantee that the problem placed before them will be most effectively and expertly dealt with.

"I therefore most sincerely hope that Government may see its way to resume the previous practice of referring to the Chamber all matters of a commercial nature.

"Hong Kong has excellent communications with the outside world. This does not apply to shipping alone, on the contrary, Hong Kong has rapidly developed into a key point in international aviation.

Airport Not Adequate

"Contrary however, to its splendid natural harbour, the airport cannot be considered adequate for present day demands of modern air traffic.

"The aerodrome is far from ideally situated, moreover it is too small easily to accommodate the larger types of land aircraft.

Already some international airlines, employing these larger types are by-passing Hong Kong. If Hong Kong desires to maintain and develop her almost natural position in relation to international air traffic in the Far East, an airport not only of considerably larger dimensions but also better situated, than the present one, is positively essential.

"The urgency of this need cannot be sufficiently stressed.

"Ships and planes provide excellent postal facilities for the Colony. Telegraph communications are adequate; international radio-telephone however, is still in its infancy and here is much scope for development.

"The port facilities are very satisfactory but also here is room for further improvement and it is gratifying to learn of the plans of the principal wharf and godown companies in this connection.

"Since a considerable percentage of the tonnage calling at Hong Kong moors at the buoys in the harbour, may I suggest an idea for further improvement, namely, the possibility of establishing radio-telephone connections to the ships moored at the buoys in the harbour.

"The dockyards have so far been able to compete with those elsewhere. This has been principally due to the work being carried out quicker here.

"In other words, money saved by quicker completion of the jobs, has in many cases been the decisive factor for owners to have repairs carried out in Hong Kong.

Reducing Costs

"This being the case it stands in reason that it will prove to be in the interests of the Colony to concentrate on ways and means of reducing their repair cost. This does not necessarily mean a reduction in actual labour wages but this could already to quite an extent be accomplished by more and stricter supervision which would result in an increase in output per man hour.

"In passing I should like to remark here that the Year Report of the Chamber for 1948 is not quite correct where it says work on reconversion of ships from war to peacetime functions finished during 1947.

"I may say that I have it on reasonably reliable authority that one shipping firm alone already spent more than HK\$7,800,000 exclusively on reconversion work of this nature performed during 1948.

"It is most satisfactory to note the considerable and constant increase and expansion of the industrial undertakings in the Colony. No doubt the local power concerns will take adequate steps to cope with the increased demands for industrial current.

"With considerable interest I have read the Chamber's report on the subject of clerical workers' wages and cost of living allowances.

"A smooth functioning of all working classes in this Colony is a matter of more than vital importance to everyone. It is therefore gratifying to learn that also this subject has the constant and undivided attention of the Chamber. Also here the closest co-operation between Government and private enterprise is essential to prevent discontent and possibly even troubles of a more serious nature.

"When reasonable and satisfactory standard wage scales and allowances have been set in mutual consultation it is hoped that all concerned will adhere as closely as possible to those

standards in order to prevent undue competition amongst employers and consequent disquiet amongst workers.

"A matter of grave concern in this connection is the shortage and resultant high cost of reasonably adequate living quarters also for this category. This situation, being for a good deal due to the excessive increase in population of this Colony, requires in my opinion preferred and special attention.

"I should like to conclude these remarks by expressing great appreciation for the work accomplished by the Chamber and its competent staff and I take pleasure in seconding the adoption of the Report and Accounts for the year 1948."

A General Review

A comprehensive review of the business, industrial shipping and civil aviation activities in Hong Kong during the whole of last year is made in the Chamber's annual report.

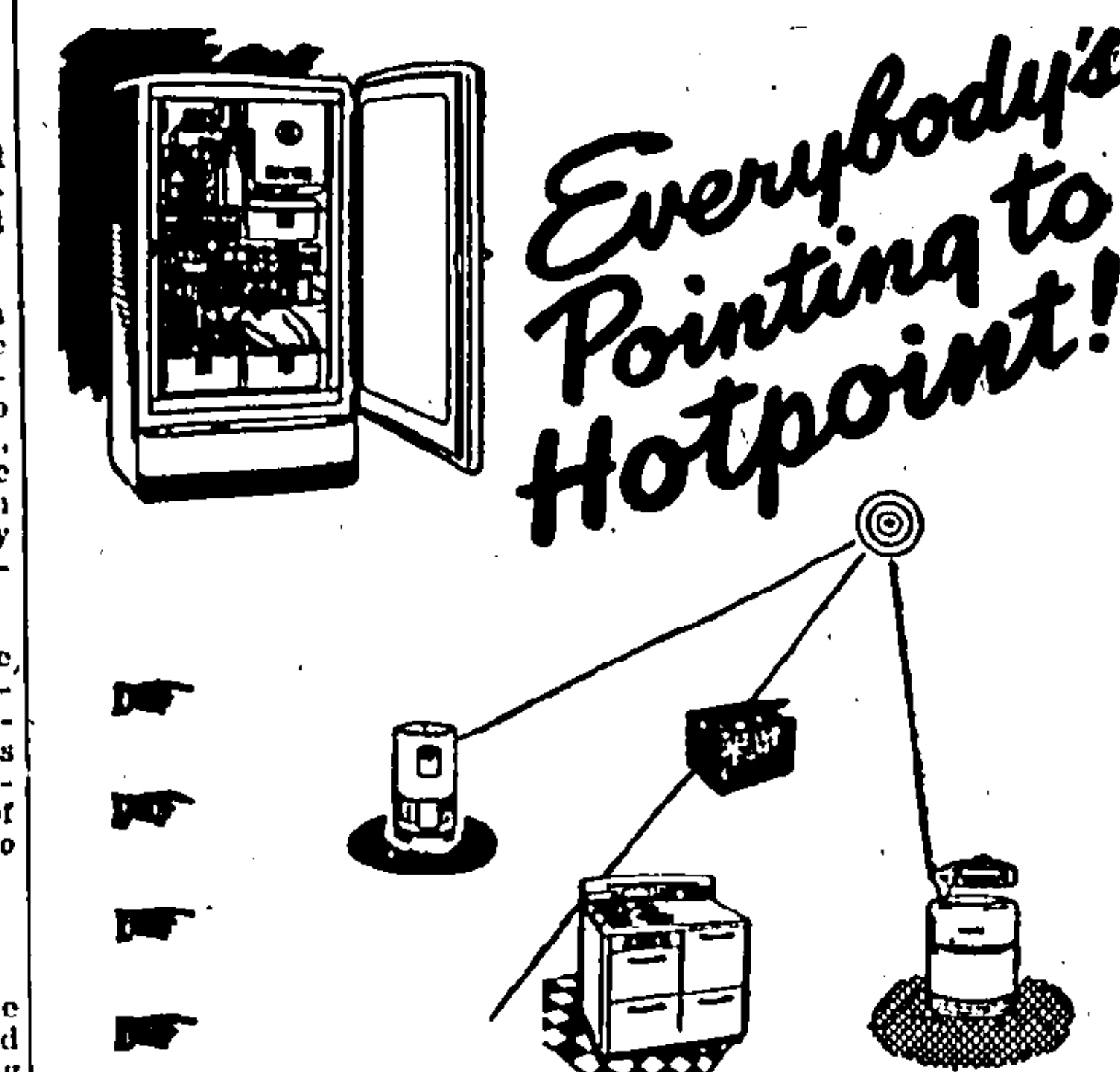
The most important matter affecting commercial interests which the Chamber has examined, undoubtedly, the memorandum on the proposed re-organisation of the Imports and Exports Department which was forwarded by the Honourable Colonial Secretary for the consideration of the Committee on May 6, 1948.

In the memorandum it was explained that the object of the proposals was to institute a Government agency which, in the first instance, would carry out such functions as the Imports and Exports Department is performing at the present time and absorb such duties of the Supplies, Trade and Industry Department as are worthy of retention. It was also proposed that the new Department should undertake certain new functions the purpose of which would be to give the Colony an up-to-date and efficient organisation in touch with all commercial activities in the Colony, and able to advise enquirers and the Government on any aspect of economic activity in Hong Kong and to give information on commercial activities overseas.

Board Of Trade

It was proposed that contact with the commercial world would be maintained through an advisory Board known as the

(Continued on Page 11)



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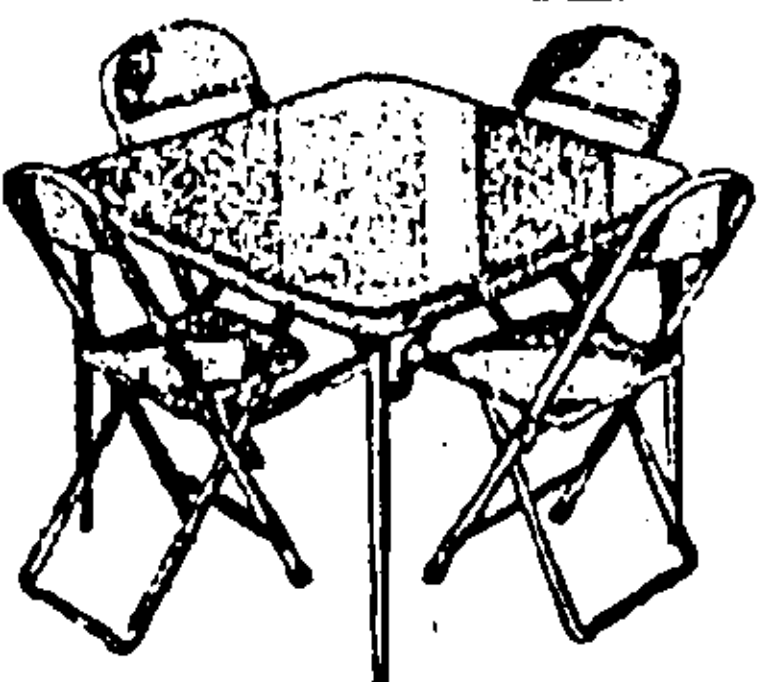
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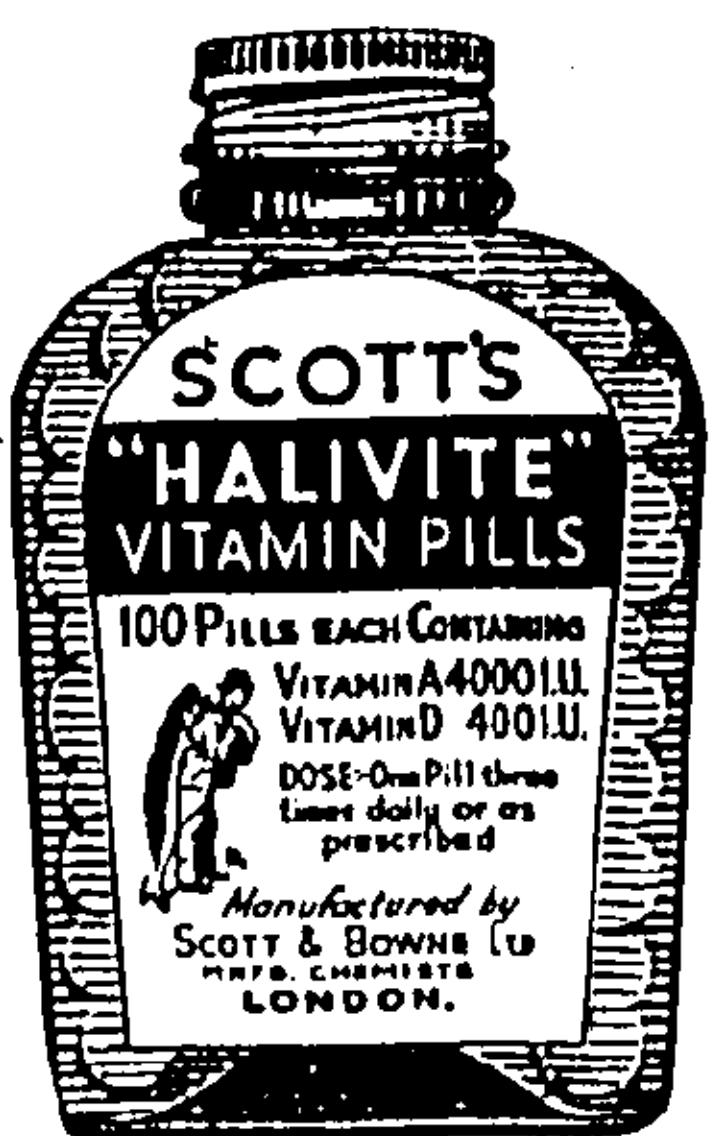
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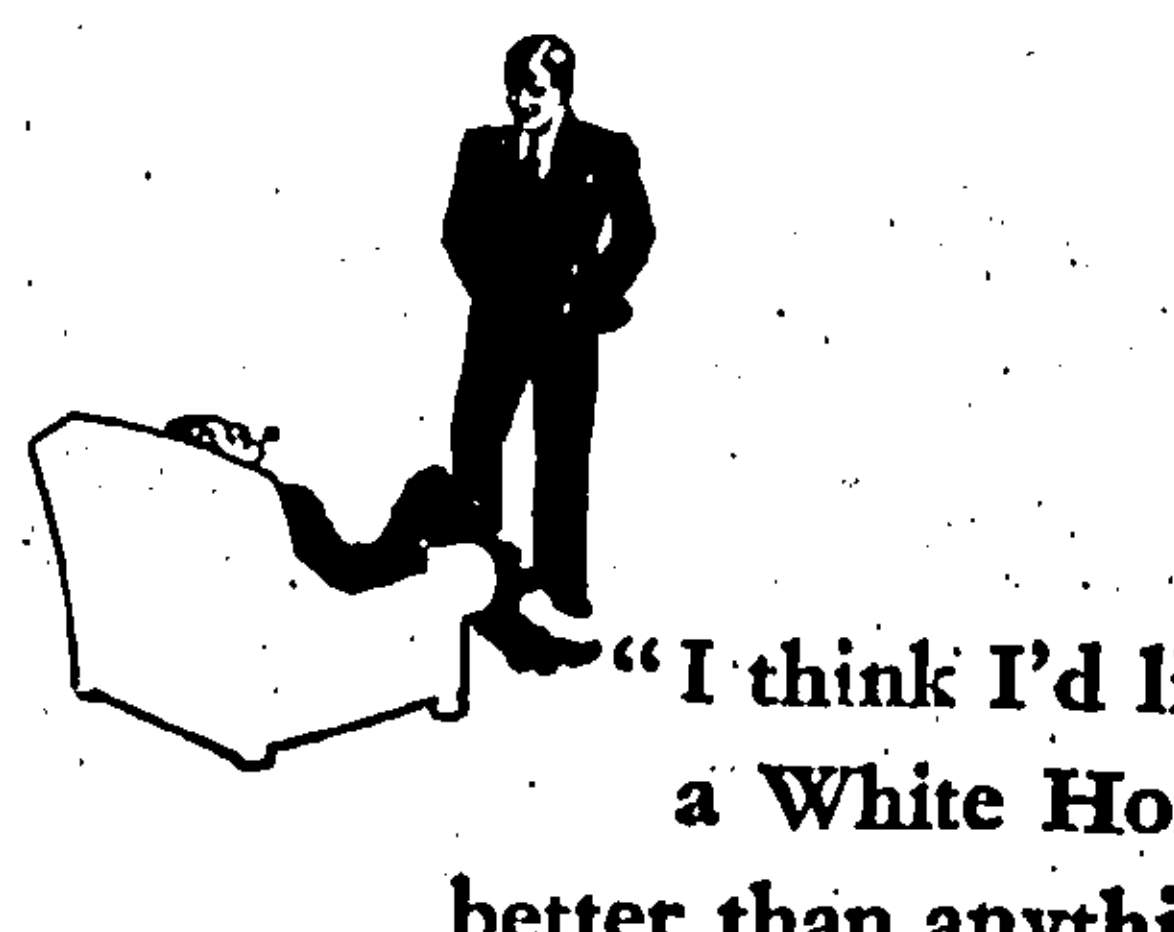
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ONE-YEAR-OLDBerlin, March 20.
The cold war in Berlin was a
year old today. Allied officials
saw no sign of a peaceful
settlement. During the year
the Allied airlift has not only
saved the West from losing the
cold war but has taken it well
along the road toward winning
it, Allied officials said.The airlift was the Anglo-
American answer to the Soviet
blockade of Berlin, which began
just 12 days after the German
capital became the "front line"
of the cold war. It was on March
20, 1948 that the Soviets walked
out of the Allied Control Council
— a four Power body set up at
Potsdam to govern occupied Ger-
many.That was the starting gun in
the Soviet campaign designed to
oust the Western Powers from
Berlin. Twelve days later, the
Russians stopped all military and
passenger trains in Berlin. Step
by step they barred barge traffic,
closed down Western Allied
vehicular repair stations and held
up supply trains. Most of the
moves were met by Western coun-
ter measures.Finally, on June 19, when the
Western occupation powers in-
troduced a new currency in Ber-
lin, the Soviets clamped down
their total blockade. On June 25,
two American B-17 Flying For-
tresses brought the first supplies
for Western Berlin's 3,500,000 in-
habitants.Today "Operation Vittles"
planes soar overhead every few
minutes with tons of food, fuel
and goods. Since the Soviet
walkout from the Control Coun-
cil all of Germany and Berlin it-
self have been divided into the
Eastern and Western spheres with
their own governments. In the
near future they are expected to
have their own constitutions.—
United Press.Pondichery, March 20.
A 29-man Pondicherry Committee, appointed this
afternoon by the Councillors of the four French
settlements in South India, suggested that a re-
ferendum whether to remain in the French
Union or unite with India be held on Decem-
ber 7.The flags of France and India were today flying over
Pondicherry Town Hall, where the Municipal
Councillors of the four Southern French settle-
ments in India were meeting to decide the de-
tails and date for a referendum which will de-
termine the future of French India.US Comment
On Rocket
TestingWashington, March 20.
The State Department today
disclaimed knowledge of, and
the Atomic Energy Commission
refused to comment on a press
report from Sydney that the
United States would test rockets
with atomic warheads on an
Australian range.The State Department spokes-
man said the Department had
never heard of the agreement
which is reported to be made soon
among the United States, Britain
and Australia, giving the United
States use of the range.The Atomic Energy Commis-
sion spokesman said only, "No
comment," and added: "Our
testing ground is Eniwetok Island
in the Marshalls."An Army spokesman said the
Army had nothing to do with
atomic weapons. He recalled that
an administration-sponsored bill
was introduced in Congress re-
cently proposing that a 3,000-mile
range be set aside in the United
States for testing guided missiles.
He said, however, that missiles
with atomic warheads were not
mentioned in the provisions of the
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DONG: **JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LTD.**Appeal To
Joe StalinWashington, March 20.
Miss Anna Strong, the
American pro-Soviet writer
deported from the Soviet
Union last month, charged
with being an American spy,
has appealed directly to Mar-
shal Stalin to order an in-
vestigation of her case.
She has asked through her
lawyer for an official retraction
of the charges against
her prove unfounded.
The request has been sent
to the State Department for
forwarding to the Soviet
Union. Miss Strong has in-
dicated she has no desire to
return to Soviet Russia if she
is cleared.—Routier.Calwell On
Australian
ImmigrationMelbourne, March 20.
"The ordinary Asiatic does not
want to come to Australia, and
the only Asiatic particularly in-
terested in our immigration
policy is the political propagandist,"
said Arthur Calwell, Immigration
Minister, in a broadcast."The ordinary Asiatic has no
desire to mingle his blood with
ours. We would not be helping
them if we were to take
a quota of 20,000 to 40,000 out
of their teeming millions. If we
took from one part of Asia, we
would have to take from another."
"Before long, Australia would
become an Eurasian nation, with
its coloured peoples little, if any
better off, than they were in their
native lands, and its white people
reduced to poverty—except for a
ruthless few."He said an undisturbed Aus-
tralia could help the peoples of
Asia raise their standards of living.
He added that Australians who
wanted Asiatics admitted to Aus-
tralia were "silly sentimentalists"
or "political extremists.""If numbers of Asiatics were
admitted, they would be potential
enemies if Australia went to war
with Japan again. Further,
abandonment of our policy would
lead to economic exploitation and
vicious racial problems such as
exist in the United States."—
United Press.

CANTONESE BY RADIO

BY S.K. LEE

Lesson 31 (B)

Vocabulary:

168. (to) doh³ To arrive. To reach. Until. To.
169. (tsau) dzau² Wine. Spirits.
170. (tim) deem³ A shop. A store. An inn.
171. (p'a) pah³ To fear. To be afraid.

Combinations:

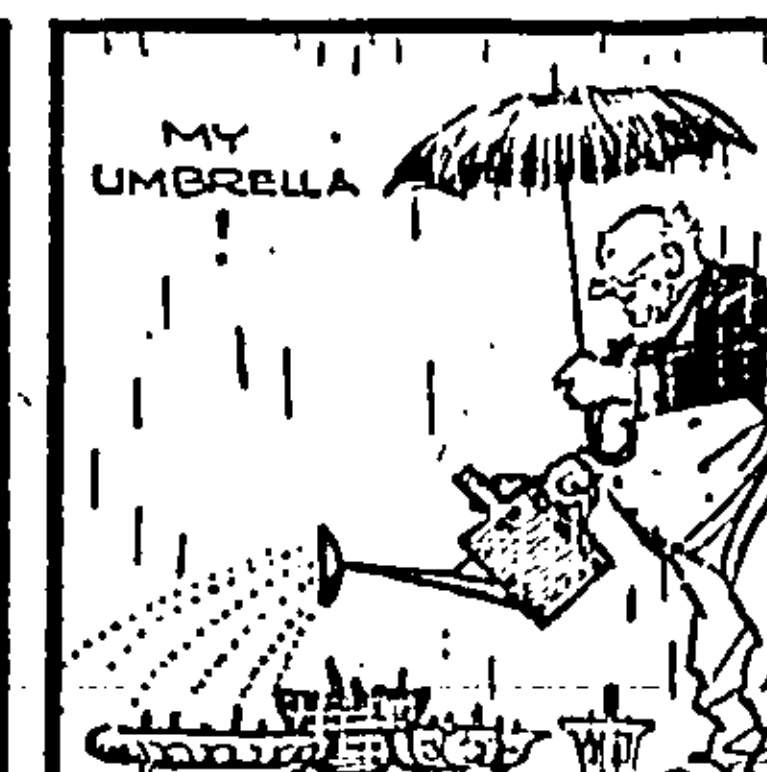
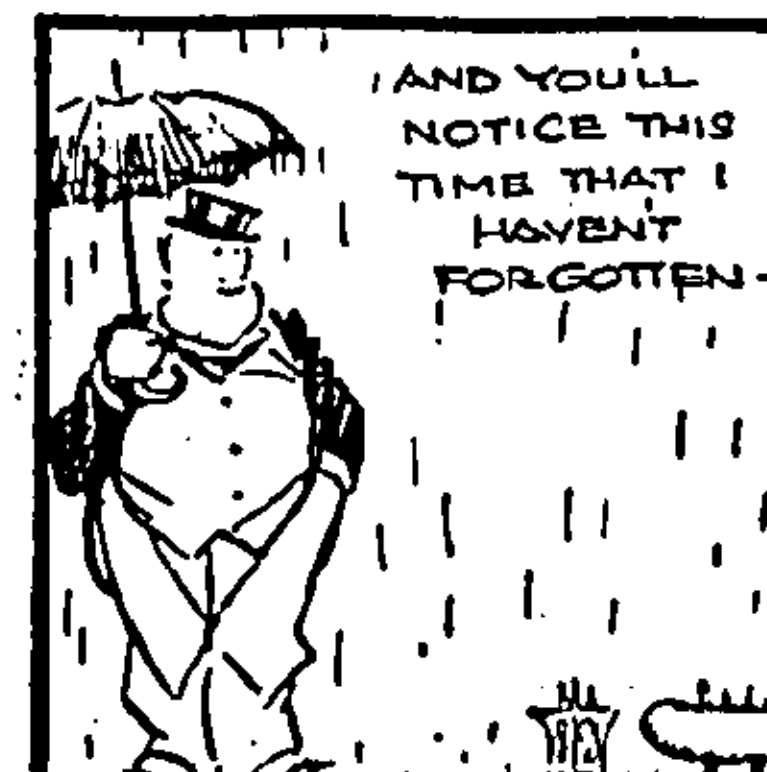
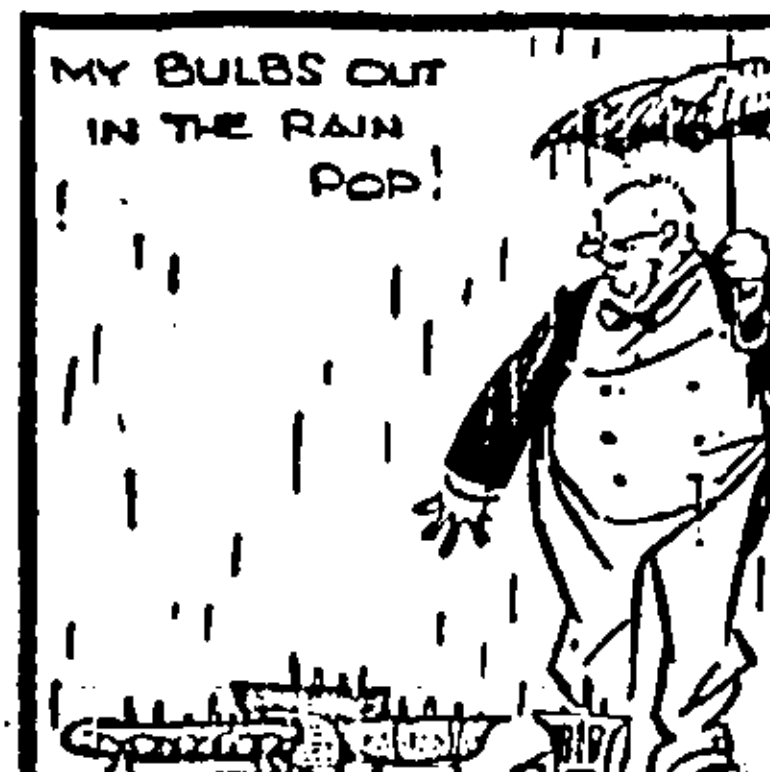
1. Dzau² deem³ A hotel.
2. Dzee gay² Self. Oneself.
3. Ngaw² dzee gay² Myself.
4. Shaw² yee. Therefore.
5. Pung² yau. A friend.

A Story. (Continued)

10. Kui hui³ doh³ Sheung- He arrived at Shanghai.
hoy³.
11. Kui hui³ yut¹ gaan¹ He lived at a big hotel.
daaye dzau² deem³ jue.
12. Kui² dzee gay² yut¹ He, (by) himself (alone),
gaw² yun, occupied four rooms, because
jue say³ gaan¹ fong² he was afraid people might
yun¹ wai² kui pah³ not know (that) he was rich.
yun¹ day² m jee¹ doh³
kui² yau¹ aseen² ah³.
13. Kui² yut¹ yut doh¹ m Everyday he did no work and
dzoh gung¹ foo¹ (everyday) spent a lot of
yut¹ yut doh¹ shai² hoh² money.
daw¹ tseen².
14. Yunt¹ wai² kui² yau As he had
gom² daw¹ tseen² shai² so much money to spend,
shaw² yee² yau hoh² (therefore) there were many
daw¹ yun people pleased to be friends
foon¹ hay² tung² kui with him.
dzoh² pung² yau.

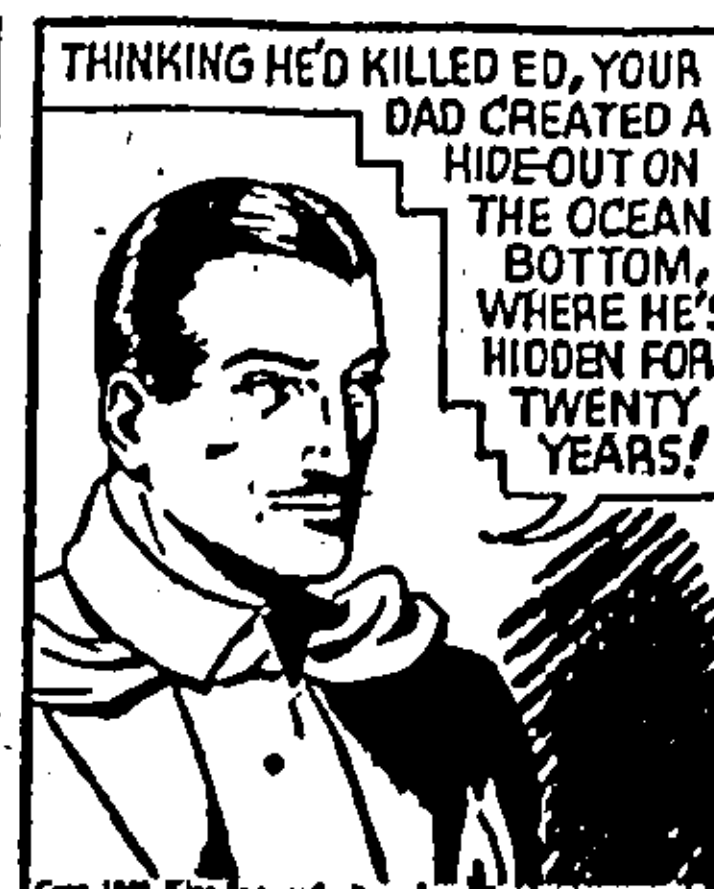
(To be continued)

POP



MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



RIP KIRBY

By ALEX RAYMOND

**HONG KONG
PICTORIAL
AND
POST CARD
VIEWS
OF HONG KONG
OBTAINABLE AT
CHINA MAIL
OFFICES
WINDY HOUSE**

MR. P. S. CASSIDY'S SPEECH

(Continued from Page 9)

Board of Trade. This Board, it was suggested, should be presided over by the Director of the new Department and be made up of members of the various commercial and industrial representative bodies in the Colony. The proposed activities of the Board were divided into two broad categories, firstly, to bring to the notice of Government, of its own initiative, any matters on which it was thought desirable that Government should take action and, secondly, to advise Government on matters of policy referred to it for consideration. It was suggested that this would provide a quick means of communication between the Government and the merchants and would ensure that a wide range of interested parties would be consulted before legislative action was taken.

The memorandum went into some detail on the functions of the proposed new Department, which were to be extensive and varied, but in the absence of definite knowledge of the intentions of Government in this matter, it is not proposed to set them out in detail in this report.

Examination By Chamber

The Committee considered the proposals of so far reaching a character that they had been given the most careful examination and a special sub-committee was set up headed by Mr. P. S. Cassidy who was, at that time, Vice-Chairman of the Chamber, and consisting of Messrs. S. J. Cooke, H. Owen Hughes, A. Pierce, W. A. Stewart and R. K. Valentine. This sub-committee prepared a report which was adopted by the General Committee and forwarded to Government on August 4, 1948.

It was explained to Government that, although many of the comments offered were of a destructive nature, the Chamber was not adopting an obstructive policy. The careful thought given to the matter by the writer of the memorandum was fully appreciated, but it was believed that although certain features of the proposed scheme might be valuable, the proposals were too ambitious and, in a large measure, unnecessary.

It was pointed out to Government that this Chamber of Commerce embodies in its membership all the leading business houses in the Colony; that it has already standing sub-committees which can deal with problems affecting imports, exports, shipping, accountancy, labour and legal matters, and that it can, at any time, for expert advice on matters wherein the trade and industry of the Colony are affected.

It was also pointed out to Government that the Chamber is prepared to expand its organization to carry out any additional functions which may be required of it. A note was given to Government of the various functions which the Chamber already performs, and it was suggested that the pre-war practice of referring to the Chamber all matters affecting the commerce and industry of the Colony might be resumed at an early date and that the adoption of this practice would prove of greater benefit to the Colony than would be achieved by setting up a complicated Government Department whose staff would not enjoy the benefit of practical experience in the matters with which they would be called upon to deal.

Internal Affairs

During the year under review, membership has increased to a total of 504 at December 31, 1948, and this substantial increase has occasioned some reinforcement of the secretarial staff. Mr. D. R.

Arnott assumed the appointment of Assistant Secretary on July 1, 1948, and the Committee has every hope that he will give the Chamber many years of useful service.

Further progress has been made in re-equipping the office and in building up the library with works of reference which members have at their disposal.

Finances

The accounts for the year ended December 31, 1948, are considered by the Committee to represent a satisfactory position. Members will note that a large proportion of income surplus to current expenditure has been used for the purpose of writing down property and furniture, and that a balance of \$8,804 has been carried forward to the new account.

Shipping

The year 1948 has seen a great improvement in the quality of ocean tonnage serving Hong Kong, and the indications are that this tendency will continue in 1949 provided the volume of trade is sufficient to support the new ships. This improvement is primarily the result of the optimism of owners who made their plans at the end of the war and immediately afterwards for replacing war losses with first class tonnage and their hopes have to a great extent been justified by the cargoes offering in these waters. Hong Kong's own imports, as was said above, have increased—although obviously to a very much smaller extent than Chinese imports have decreased—in comparison with before the war, but local seasonal exports of South China products, such as Cane and Ginger, have been surprisingly good in spite of banditry and unrest up-country.

There has also been a quite substantial increase in cargo from Japan to the United Kingdom, mainly unfinished textiles for processing in Lancashire, and this has assisted in providing cargo for tonnage serving Hong Kong.

The Chinese Government made no change in the laws which exclude foreign shipping from enroute on the China Coast and from proceeding up the Yangtze River beyond Woosung. Locally based shipping has therefore had to turn its attention to trade between Hong Kong, Korea, China and the South Seas. As has been said, the trades of China itself were at a low ebb and the Hong Kong China trades were therefore unable to support more than a very small amount of shipping. Korea, both North and South, assumed its importance in the course of the year, and a certain amount of North China produce from Communist territory found its way to Hong Kong via South Korea. Japan took quite substantial quantities of export cargo from Hong Kong—most of which had its origin in China—at the beginning of the year, but this trade fell off after the Spring. This falling off was aggravated by a decline in the trade with Siam and Malaya, and something of a slump developed in the Summer which persisted till the end of the year. French Indo-China continued commercially dead and contributed very little cargo.

River Trade

Both the Canton River trade and the Macao trade were over-tonned with a variety of craft of all descriptions and standards, for which the cargo and passenger moving were insufficient to provide economical employment. An attempt was made in the Spring to form a shipping companies' Conference with the object of maintaining freight and passenger rates, but the Association was not successful and the upward section disintegrated towards the end of the year, although the downward section continued to exist in name.

Dredging on the Tsimshing of the Canton River was abandoned in mid-summer when it was decided to concentrate on clearing the stone barrier in the Elliot passage. This passage was due to be ready for traffic at the end of the year when it was hoped that ships drawing up to fifteen feet would be able to reach Canton at all states of the tide.

After the early part of the year, no terrorist attempts were made on shipping but the prevention of smuggling remained a major problem for reputable ship-owners, and can be expected to continue to do so as long as the Chinese regulations prohibit the import of a large number of types of goods much in demand.

The West River continued to be served by junk and other small craft but trade was substantially constant despite depredations by bandits.

The Port

Notable developments during the year include the establishment of Blackhead Light as an aid to vessels entering the harbour by the Eastern entrance, and the introduction of a red sector for Cape Collinson light to cover Bokhara and Tathong Rocks. Continued progress has been made with the clearing of wrecks from the harbour so that there are no large obstructions to the main fairways. Two over-size heavy commercial moorings have been laid for the use of large vessels under typhoon weather conditions, and a quarantine anchorage has been established in Kowloon Bay to save large vessels from the necessity to traverse the whole length of the harbour.

The establishment of a radio direction finder Calibration range in the West Lamma Channel early in 1949 will undoubtedly prove a major benefit to shipping so equipped, and the installation of a radio telephone between the Marine Office and Waglan Light House has already proved to be of considerable help to owners and agents in receiving early reports of vessels arriving. Another notable and welcome development during the year has been the provision of office accommodation at the Marine Department for the Port Health Officer and his staff so that now all official ship's business can be transacted at one centre.

Report On Pilots

During May a letter was received from the Honourable Colonial Secretary asking the Chamber to nominate three members for appointment to a Pilots Committee which was to advise Government on the arrangements to be made to implement the recommendations of the Committee presided over by Mr. Justice Gould.

There was a strong dissenting minority and, after consultation, it was agreed to submit to Government both the majority and the minority comment. Opinion was unanimous in opposing any institution of compulsory pilotage, or the employment of European pilots, while the majority favoured the scheme for an oratory under the proposed Pilots Board, the minority desired to leave things much as they were at the time, with some tightening up of the licensing system and some increase in charges to ensure an admittedly necessary immediate improvement in the service.

It is understood that in the long run Government has decided to adopt in the meantime the recommendations of the pilots themselves, which were that things should be left as they were. Agreement was of course reached between Government and

the pilots to take on a much larger number of apprentices than had been the custom for some years, and this will no doubt ensure continuity and maintain the service at its pre-war efficiency.

Dockyards

Work on reconversion of ships from war to peace-time functions repaired in the harbour, a total of 755 vessels amounting to 1,208,000 gross tons have been docked at the various yards. One of the largest jobs under way at the present time is the repair of the ex-Japanese tanker "Kuroso" which is now being reconditioned for the China Tug Company by The Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited. More than 1,000 tons of new or re-fitted steel are having to be worked over the whole of the ship and the repair virtually amounts to a re-building as the vessel had been torpedoed and sunk.

Godown Facilities

The China Provident Loan and Mortgage Company, Limited, Holt's Wharf, The Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and Wang Kee and Company, in common with the Dockyards, suffered extensive damage during the Japanese occupation. Rehabilitation has proceeded steadily since 1945 and the companies have now reached the position when they can proceed with their development projects, many of which were in contemplation before the war but had to be held over pending restoration of the old facilities.

During 1948, cargoes from upwards of 1,000 ships have been handled, the approximate total being more than two-and-a-quarter million tons, and although there was a period during the middle of the year when cargoes diverted from Shanghai and elsewhere in China threatened to outrun storage space, the prolonged shipping strike on the West Coast of America allowed space to become available again so that since then there has been a steady turn-over of stocks held.

Crown Leases

Once again the Committee of the Chamber has found it necessary to take up with Government the conditions proposed for the grant of Crown Leases. The matter was submitted to the Chamber by several member firms in letters during November and December. The Committee noted that the usual procedure had been for Government to issue preliminary terms providing for the main conditions. Several members had enquired of Government as to the nature of these special conditions and had been informed that they related to rights of way, special drainage conditions, support of the lot by walls, etc., conditions of assignment, payment of premium by lump sum or over a period of years.

On this basis members had accepted the preliminary terms and had gone ahead with the erection of buildings on the property. The special conditions eventually submitted by Government, however, contained in every case a clause saying that the lessee shall maintain on that portion of the new lot left unattached, during the term for which the lot is leased, and deliver up at the end or earlier termination of such term a specified number of residences to a capital value of not less than a specified figure.

(Continued on Page 14)

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE

Agents: CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO

"HEINRICH JESSEN"	Singapore & Penang	5 p.m. 22nd Mar.
"FENGTIEN"	Shanghai (Yokohama Kobe)	4 p.m. 25th Mar.
"TSINAN"	Swatow	10 a.m. 27th Mar.
"HUPEH"	Shanghai	4 p.m. 28th Mar.
"PRODUCE"	Yokohama & Kobe	31st Mar.
"FOYANG"	Bangkok	4th April
"FUKIEN"	Singapore, (Macassar?) Sourabaya & Batavia	7th April

* Sails from Custodian Wharf

ARRIVALS FROM

"TSINAN"	Swatow	9 a.m. 23rd Mar.
"HUPEH"	Shanghai & Keelung	26th Mar.
"PRODUCE"	Bangkok	28th Mar.
"FUKIEN"	Tientsin & Inchon	29th Mar.

RIVER SERVICE

"FATSHAN"	Hongkong/Canton DEP. Hongkong	Canton/Hongkong ARR. Hongkong
	4 p.m. 24th Mar.	7.30 a.m. 26th Mar.

Agents: BLUE FUNNEL LINE

SCHEDULE SAILINGS TO LIVERPOOL via Aden & Port Said.

"CLYTONES"	via Tanager, Casablanca & Havre	8th Apr.
"EUMAEUS"	Non Schedule Ship	10th Apr.
"ASTYANAX"	via Genoa Marseilles & Glasgow	24th Apr.

Arrivals from

"TITAN"	U.K. via Straits	29th Mar.
"ASTYANAX"	"	1st Apr.
"TYNDAROS"	"	5th Apr.
"EUMAEUS"	U.K. via Straits & Manila	8th Apr.
"CALCHAS"	U.K. via Straits	14th Apr.
"STENTOR"	"	20th Apr.

NEW YORK SERVICE

"AGAMENNON"	from U.S.A. via Manila	21st Apr.
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Carriers option to proceed via other ports to load and discharge cargo.

Agents: Australian-Oriental Line, Ltd.

Sailings to

"SHANSI"	Sydney, Melbourne & Brisbane	26th Apr.
"CHANGTE"	Japan	4th week Apr.

Arrivals from

"SHANSI"	Australia & Manila	19th Apr.
"CHANGTE"	Australia	3rd week Apr.

All The Above Subject To Alteration Without Notice

General Agents for: AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL AIRWAYS, CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS, SKYWAYS (FOR EAST) LTD.
Booking Agents for: B.O.A.C., C.N.A.C., H.K. AIRWAYS, P.O.A.S., P.A.A., F.A.L. and N.W.A.

For passage and Freight Particulars Apply To The Above.

1. CONNAUGHT ROAD, CENTRAL.

Telephone: 3233/4 Private Exchange
Branch Office—50 Connaught Rd., W. Tel. 25875, 32141, 21878.

HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

S.S. "MELISKERK"

LOADING 28th MARCH

FOR

MANILA, SINGAPORE, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, ALEXANDRIA, GENOA, MARSEILLES, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM, AMSTERDAM, HAMBURG, COPENHAGEN, GOTHENBURG & OSLO.

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HONG KONG—CANTON

M.V. "HONGKONG"

船輪江香

H.K. DEPARTURE:

10 p.m. 22/3/1949

10 p.m. 24/3/1949

10 p.m. 26/3/1949

10 p.m. 28/3/1949

TUNG ON WHARF

CANTON DEPARTURE:

9 p.m. 22/3/1949

9 p.m. 24/3/1949

9 p.m. 26/3/1949

9 p.m. 28/3/1949

LUEN HING WHARF

Subject To Alteration Without Notice.

Passenger Tickets & Freight Particulars Obtainable At:

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AGENTS

136, CONNAUGHT ROAD, CENTRAL

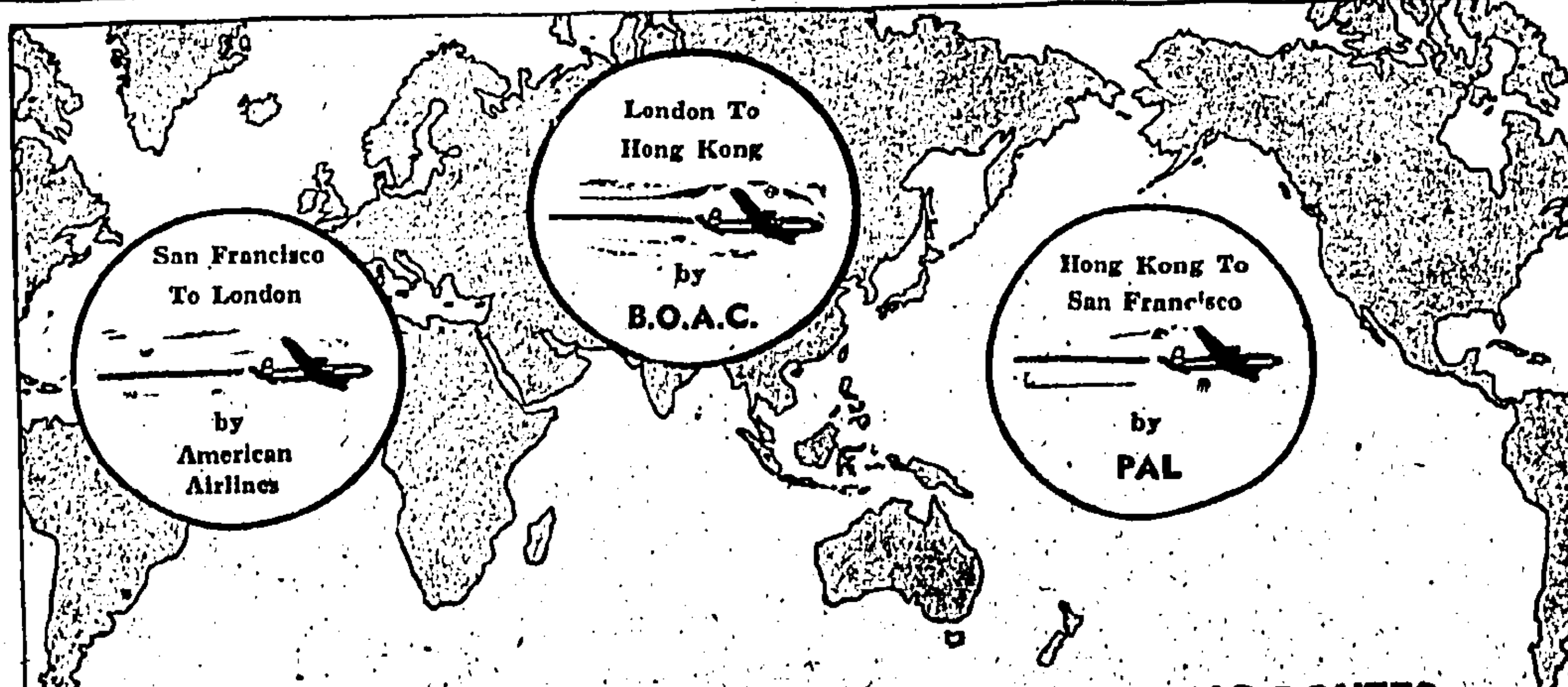
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PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

OUTWARDS	LEAVES LONDON	DUE HONGKONG
"CANTON"	10th March	11th April
"CANTON"	7th April	5th May
"CORFU"	2nd May	4th June
"CANTON"	2nd June	4th July
"CANTON"	20th June	1st August
"CORFU"	20th July	25th August

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore.

HOMEWARDS	LEAVES HONGKONG	DUE LONDON
"CANTON"	15th April	15th May
"CANTON"	15th May	15th June
"CORFU"	9th June	11th July
"CANTON"	8th July	8th August
"CANTON"	8th August	8th September
"CORFU"	2nd September	3rd October

Via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden & Port Said.

FREIGHT SERVICE

"TREVINCE"	sails 20th Apr.	for Straits, Colombo, U.K. & Continent.
"THREVELAND"	due 20th Apr.	from London & Continent.
"BOCOTRA"	sails 10th May	for London & Continent.
"SHILLONG"	due 10th May	from London & Continent.

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"SANGOLA"	due 21st Mar.	from Japan & Shanghai.
"DAYBAM"	due end Mar.	for Straits, Haiphong & Calcutta. Accepts Chittagong & Madras cargo.
"BIRDHANA"	due 6th Apr.	from Japan & Shanghai.
"TAIRRA"	due 22nd Apr.	from Japan & Shanghai.
"RICHMOND HILL"	due 20th Apr.	for Japan via Amoy.
"SHIRALA"	due 23rd Apr.	for Japan via Amoy.
"FURNEA"	due end Apr.	for Japan via Amoy.

* These ships have Refrigerated Cargo space.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. Co., Ltd.

"EASTERN"	due 23rd Mar.	from Australia & Manila.
"EASTERN"	sails 25th Mar.	for Japan & Shanghai.
"EASTERN"	sails 24th Apr.	(Passenger accommodation available) for Rabaul, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne & Adelaide.

* Accepts cargo on through bills of lading for NEW ZEALAND & FIJI ISLANDS PORTS.

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ARRIVALS FROM EUROPE

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M.V. TAMARA	"	6th May
M.V. OLUF MAERSK	"	Early June

SAILINGS TO EUROPE

M.V. HALLAND	Loading	Early May
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S.S. "STEEL CHEMIST"	Sails for Saigon & Bangkok	10th Apr.

SAILINGS TO U.S.A. via PANAMA

S.S. "STEEL CHEMIST"	In port	12th Apr.
S.S. "ALLEGHENY VICTORY"	"	"

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JAVA-CHINA SERVICE		
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"TJISADANE"	from Shanghai & Amoy	to Javaports & Macassar 27th March.
"TJISADAK"	from Macassar & Javaports	to Shanghai 1st April.
"TJISALENGKA"	from Macassar & Javaports	to Shanghai 14th April.

ASIA-AFRICA-S. AMERICA SERVICE		
"TIPANAS"	In port	to South Africa 23rd March.
"STRAAT MALAKKA"	from Japan 30th March.	to East & South Africa & South America, 31st March.
"BOISSEVAL"	from South America & South Africa, 10th April.	to East & South Africa & South America, 30th April.
"STRAAT SOENDA"	from Japan 13th May.	to East & South Africa & South America, 18th May.
"TEGELBERG"	from South America & South Africa, 13th June.	to East & South Africa & South America, 17th June.

All Steamers Calling Mombasa & L. Marques Direct. Transshipment cargo on through B/L to Dar-Es-Salaam. Zanzibar accepted on all sailings.

SUMATRA-MALAYA-CHINA SERVICE

Arrivals		
"VAN HEUTSZ"	from B. Deli & Singapore	to B. Deli 20th March.
"VAN RIEMSDIJK"	from B. Deli & Straits	to B. Deli 8th April.

Agents: HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Arrivals		
"MELISKER"	from Japan & Shanghai	to Europe via Manila & Straits 28th March.
"MARIEKER"	from Europe	to Europe via Manila & Straits Mid April.
"MOLENERKER"	from Europe	to Europe via Manila & Straits Early May.
"MEERKER"	from Europe	to Europe via Manila & Straits Mid June.

Transshipment cargo on through B/L accepted to Indian, Mediterranean and Northern European ports.

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DE LA RAMA LINES

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC COAST VIA LOS ANGELES & SAN FRANCISCO

R.S. "DONA AURORA"	19th Apr.
M.V. "BENARES"	28th Apr.

SAILING FOR U.S. ATLANTIC COAST VIA LOS ANGELES

M.V. "BENARES"	30th Apr.
R.S. "DONA AURORA"	19th May

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Other: H.K. & S. Bank 17 1/2, 100% 102 1/2, 100% 102 1/2, 100% 102 1/2.

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Suspension Of Coal Mining Slows U.S. Business, Industry

New York, March 20. Suspension of coal mining slowed U.S. business and industry this week.

Although damage to the nation's economy was small at this stage, coal is such a vital element that interruption of its normal flow even temporarily hurts business and industry all along the line.

Business was shocked by the decree by John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers' chief, sending the miners home for a two week stoppage.

The decree came at a time when unfavourable business conditions are increasing. The railroads currently are the hardest hit. They have been losing traffic to trucks, river barges, and other cheaper forms of freight transportation.

The amount of freight decline as a result of the coal suspension has not been determined officially this week, but it is likely to be considerable.

A check by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, one of the largest coal carriers, showed only 870 cars were loaded in the first four days of the week. In the first four days of the previous week, 10,196 cars were loaded.

The automobile industry produced 110,674 cars and trucks, the highest thus far this year. This compared with 114,223 last week. If the week's production rate could be maintained for a full year, engineering construction \$250,000,000 cars.

J. R. Davis of the Ford Motor Company told a New York sales group the days of premium prices for new automobiles is gone and "seasonal" buying has returned. Unevenness was evident in other business indices. Crude oil produced at 5,123,000 barrels daily, was the lowest in more than a year. Engineering construction awards were a little below the previous week but well ahead of last year at 127,262,000.

The world's two largest securities markets—the London and New York stock exchanges—continued to display supreme indifference to all developments, both good and bad.

The lower trend in prices was not more pronounced than in recent weeks but it continued to be persistent. The experts have almost stopped trying to figure out the reason.—Associated Press.

New York Metal Prices Down

New York, March 21. The price of quicksilver, platinum and lead declined last week. Demand for copper and zinc slackened. Running counter to the trend, ferro-manganese was quoted higher.

Primary lead was trimmed one and one-half cents a pound in the second half of the week. The new quotation is 18 cents a pound, New York. As a result, a decline of lead imports is expected.

Platinum dropped U.S.\$9. an ounce to \$72 wholesale and \$73 retail. Wholesaler buying has been sharply lowered. Their buying price for copper scrap as a hedge against possible refined changed, now quoted at 23 1/2 cents a pound.

The rising cost of imported manganese ore led to higher quotations of ferro-manganese. The average increase was \$12 a gross ton.

Metal prices: Copper, foreign, 23 1/2 cents a pound, New York; Lead, foreign, nominal, 18 cents; Gulf Mexico ports; Zinc, foreign, nominal, 18 cents, Gulf Mexico ports; Antimony, \$73.50, New York; Nickel, 42.93 New York; Platinum \$72 an ounce, wholesale, New York; Silver, 71.5 cents an ounce, New York, 43.3 pence, London; Tin, \$1.03 a pound, New York; Quicksilver \$97 to \$99 a flask, New York; Tungsten ore, Chinese, \$24.75 to \$25.25, New York.—Associated Press.

President Ellipio Quirino has not been encouraged on his projected visit to Washington to discuss security matters although he would be politely received if he made the trip on his own initiative.

There is a strong possibility that attempts to formulate a Pacific pact at this time with concrete means of backing it up would be a boomerang on the U. S.

The American owned Manila Bulletin pointed out that in a part of the world newly freed or in the process of being freed from colonialism, it may not be an easy matter to convince advocates of nationalism that Western leadership in any form under any nation is not a new device for the enslavement, domination, exploitation and like evils so easily subjected to propaganda.—Associated Press.

Manila, March 21. There is little indication here that the U.S. is ready or willing to talk about a Pacific security alliance at this time.

For months the Philippines has clamoured for fuller implementation of the military assistance agreement. While doing so the U.S. has quietly gone about the job of cutting down all but one air installation in this area.

Army and Naval installations cannot be placed in moth balls. Instead they have been skeletonized or allowed to remain undeveloped.

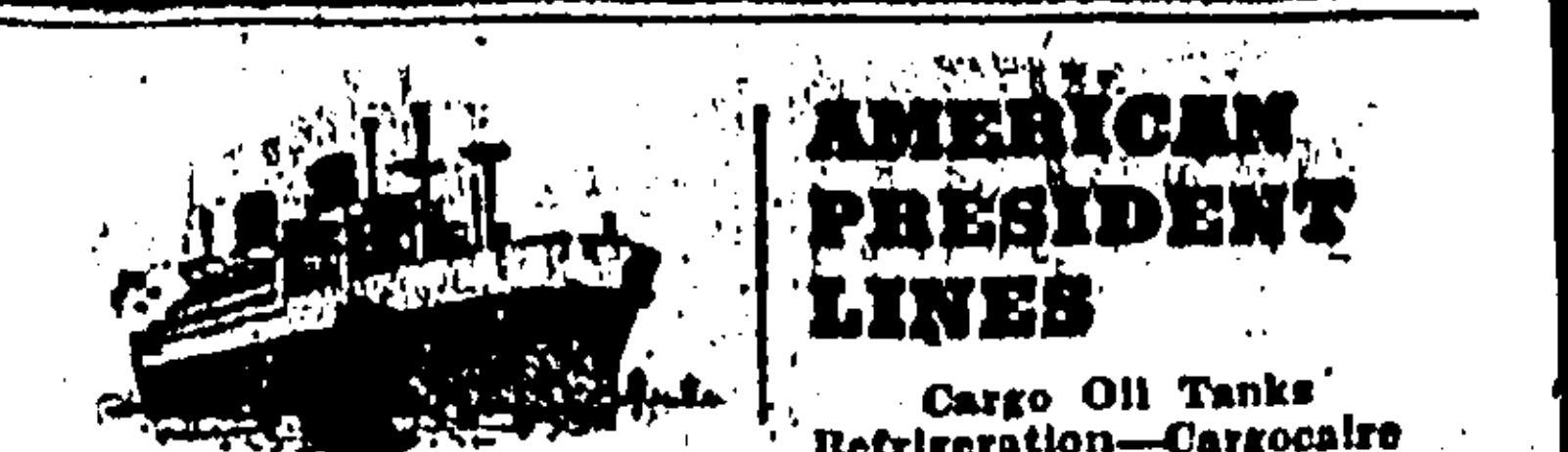
Efforts are now being made in Washington to assist the Philippines with clothing for its armed forces and fuel for its small Air Force and motorized units.

Such if granted by Congressional recommendation of the United States Military Advisory Group, is not expected to exceed a token U.S.\$40,000,000.

U.S. Army authorities have made no effort to halt disbandment of the Philippine Scouts and are not receptive to Senator Lodge's bill to permit a limited foreign legion in the U. S. Army. The legislation is aimed at perpetuating the Philippine Scouts.

Feeling seems to be that if need should arise, the U.S. already has potential bases in the Philippines, Okinawa and occupied Japan to use as a first line of defence.

President Ellipio Quirino has not been encouraged on his projected visit to Washington to discuss security matters although he would be politely received if he made the trip on his own initiative.



TO HONOLULU AND SAN FRANCISCO via Shanghai & Japan

"President Cleveland"	Apr. 3
"President Wilson"	Apr. 24
"General Gordon"	May 7

TO SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES via JAPAN

"President Taft"	Mar. 23
"President Madison"	Apr. 1
"President Pierce"	Apr. 14

TO NEW YORK, BALTIMORE & BOSTON VIA PANAMA

"President Fillmore"	Mar. 23
"President Tyler"	Mar. 31

ROUND-THE WORLD VIA MANILA, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, KARACHI, SUEZ, PORT SAID, ALEXANDRIA, NAPLES, MARSEILLES, GENOA, NEW YORK and BOSTON

"President Monroe"	Mar. 23
"President Buchanan"	Apr. 3
"President Harding"	Apr. 16

ARRIVING FROM SAN FRANCISCO

"President Grant"	Mar. 24
St. George's Bldg.	Tel. Nos 28172/28173

American Pioneer Line

Arrivals from New York, Boston, Other Atlantic Ports via Panama

"PADUCAH VICTORY"	Mar. 21
"PIONEER BAY"	Apr. 23
"PIONEER MAIL"	Apr. 27

Sailings to Manila

"PADUCAH VICTORY"	Mar. 22
"PIONEER BAY"	Apr. 24
"PIONEER MAIL"	Apr. 28

Sailings to New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore & Other Atlantic Ports via Shanghai, Japan & Panama Canal

"PIONEER SEA"	Due Mar. 23	Sails Mar. 24
"PADUCAH VICTORY"	Due Apr. 23	Sails Apr. 10
"PIONEER BAY"	Due Apr. 23	Sails Apr. 24

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UNITED STATES LINES

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BEN LINE

ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	DATE
"BENALBANACH"	Japan	23rd March.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	22nd March.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	24th March.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	26th March.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	28th March.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	30th March.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	1st April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	3rd April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	5th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	7th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	9th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	11th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	13th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	15th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	17th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	19th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	21st April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	23rd April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	25th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	27th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	29th April.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	1st May.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	3rd May.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	5th May.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	7th May.
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"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	31st May.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	1st June.
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"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	29th June.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	1st July.
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"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	5th July.
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"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	21st July.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	23rd July.
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"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	1st Aug.
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"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	25th Sept.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	27th Sept.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	29th Sept

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

ARRIVALS FROM		SAILING TO	
St. Michel	Europe	Halong & Saigon	Mid April
MORTAIN	Europe	Shanghai & Japan	Mid April
CHAMPOLLION	Europe	Shanghai & Japan	Mid April
LA de LATOUR	Europe	Shanghai & Japan	Mid April
STE. MERE EGLISE	Europe	Shanghai & Japan	Mid April
TOMORROW		TOMORROW	
St. Michel	Europe	Halong & Saigon	Mid April
MORTAIN	Europe	Shanghai & Japan	Mid April
CHAMPOLLION	Europe	Shanghai & Japan	Mid April
LA de LATOUR	Europe	Shanghai & Japan	Mid April
STE. MERE EGLISE	Europe	Shanghai & Japan	Mid April

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DIRECT for New York, Baltimore and Philadelphia via

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Tanks available for bulk oil cargoes.

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M.V. "PARRAMATTA" 10th April

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Special Tanks available for the carriage of oil in bulk

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INDO-CHINA S. N. CO., LTD.

SAILINGS

S.S. "MAUSANG" to Shanghai noon 23rd Mar.

S.S. "WINGSANG" to Keelung & Shanghai noon 24th Mar.

S.S. "LOKSANG" to Straits & Calcutta noon 24th Mar.

S.S. "CHOYSANG" to Tientsin via Incheon 1st Apr.

S.S. "WINGSANG" to Keelung & Shanghai 6th Apr.

S.S. "MAUSANG" to Sandakan 7th Apr.

ARRIVALS

S.S. "WINGSANG" from Shanghai & Keelung n.m. 24th Mar.

S.S. "LOKSANG" from Yokohama, Nagoya 24th Mar.

S.S. "CHOYSANG" from Sandakan 29th Mar.

S.S. "WINGSANG" from Sandakan 4th Apr.

Cargo accepted on Through Bills of Lading for MADRAS

via Singapore and for KUDAT, JESSELTON, LABUAN, TAWAU,

LADHAD-DATU and SEMPORNA via Sandakan.

AUSTRALIA CHINA LINE LTD.

M.V. "HINDUSTAN"

Due from Japan about 2nd April, Loads about 5th April for

Rabaul, Loc. Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.

Cargo accepted on Through Bills of Lading for New Zealand

and Fiji Island Ports.

(Carriers option to proceed via other ports to load and

discharge cargo.)

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M.V. "GLENGYLE" for Straits, Colombo, Aden, Port Said,

Genoa, London, Rotterdam & Antwerp. Loads 9th April.

M.V. "DENBIGHSHIRE" for Cebu, Straits, Colombo, Aden,

Port Said, Casablanca, London, Hamburg & Antwerp. Loads

14th April.

(Carriers option to proceed via other Ports to load and

discharge cargo)

ARRIVALS FROM U.K. VIA STRAITS:

M.V. "DENBIGHSHIRE" leaves London due Hong Kong

24th Feb. 10th April

M.V. "GLENGYLE" 21st Mar. 28th April

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INDIA

May 27th MERE EOLISH (MM) for

Shanghai.

EUROPE

May 27th MERE EOL

